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REACTION, COMMENT TO BREZHNEV'S BERLIN PROPOSALS CONTINUES

Kondrashov on West's Initial Reaction

LD121059 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Political observer S. Kondrashov article: "It's Up to the West"]

[Text] As an international act of tremendous practical and symbolic significance, the Soviet peace initiative set forth in Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's Berlin speech has elicited a massive and continuing response. Reaction continues to come in from Western countries, to whose leaders and public opinion the Soviet proposals are not least addressed. By way of initial reaction official Western spokesmen have noted positive aspects and diplomatically reserved the right to reply in detail **until a careful analysis can be done** referring also to the need to consult with their allies. Well, this attitude is quite understandable, showing recognition--so far indirect--of both the importance of the Soviet peace initiative and the **profound impact** it has had on world public opinion, politicians cannot ignore this impact.

The Western press carries numerous commentaries, attempting both to predict and to prompt the official position. Many newspapers, even bourgeois ones, have welcomed the Soviet initiative. It has pleased many observers. It surprised some people. And it even unseated certain particularly zealous people, but they are trying to resaddle their anti-Soviet horse and they will hold the poisoned lance of enmity, suspicion and disbelief. These people are unable to take a straight view of things and they do not even believe their own ears, eyes and reason, since they specialize in "Moscow's intrigues"--which is what gives them their daily bread.

The Soviet Union proposes to reduce, compared with the present level, the number of medium-range nuclear weapons [sredstva] in its western regions if there is no additional deployment of similar nuclear weapons in West Europe.... By agreement with its allies the Soviet Union adopts the decision to reduce--unilaterally--the number of Soviet troops in central Europe.... In development of the Helsinki Final Act the Soviet Union specifically proposes the broadening of confidence-building measures in Europe and is prepared to consider other ideas in this direction....

But certain newspapers place their distorted mirror opposite these clear-cut, practical, specific proposals, and in it this act of goodwill appears as just a "seduction operation" in order to "split West Europe" and "widen the rift" in NATO. Responding to the Soviet example and abandoning the dangerous plans to deploy new types of American nuclear missile weapons, it turns out, would mean "throwing oneself on Moscow's mercy." The peddlers of fears and lies do not wish to surrender their positions, and the louder they shout for help, the more normal people concerned about the fate of the world exlaim "bravo!"

But it is not they who set the tone in commentaries on the Berlin speech. More typical of the bourgeois Western press are attempts to analyze calmly and evaluate at its true worth the Soviet step, which came as a surprise to American and West European commentators. Their approach, as a rule, is ambivalent and contradictory, and they cannot desist overnight from their habitual skepticism, but they warn their countries' leaders that it would be unwise to miss the chance offered and to ignore the opportunities which it promises in the sphere of strengthening peace and stability in Europe. London's THE FINANCIAL TIMES, for example, calls for "extreme caution" but at the same time writes about "weighty grounds" for a careful examination of the Soviet initiative, which "may have serious consequences for the long deadlocked Vienna talks. [paragraph continued]

West Germany's NEUE RUHR-ZEITUNG expresses what is probably the dominant sentiment when it remarks: "The West should react very seriously to the Soviet Union's initiative and in no way submerge it in empty talk. The goal is clear: fewer arms while insuring equilibrium. This possibility exists."

Another FRG newspaper--FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU--points out that by means of its proposals the Soviet Union has "placed totally new accents in the policy of detente." This is an interesting thought. I would like to both clarify and explain it. What are the "new accents" in question?

It is no secret that in recent years certain circles--and, it must be said, very influential circles--primarily in the United States, but also in West Europe, have been practically emasculating the very concept of detente, even though they swear allegiance to it. They, so to speak, are for detente "from a position of strength" more characteristic of cold war times. They would like to perform a strange marriage between detente and the arms race and new rounds of it. And they seal this strange marriage with the "Soviet military threat" myth. The Soviet Union threatens no one and intends to attack no one, but the "Soviet threat" myth bears fruit--and this fruit is not mythical but very real: increased military spending and intensified military preparations in the United States and in NATO's West European countries.

The American President is adopting a decision to create and deploy MX mobile intercontinental missiles. The American Senate recently advocated giving the Pentagon $40 billion more over the next 3 years than it receives now--the most expensive joke of modern times, because it has not even been determined how these dollars will be spent. The Senate is also discussing the SALT II treaty, but at times this discussion produces just the same strange impression as detente's marriage with the arms race, because a number of senators make their vote for ratification conditional on an annual increase of not 3 but 5 percent in real U.S. military spending. Other senators of a more moderate trend warn that ratification will not take place unless the White House submits before the vote a 5-year plan providing for a considerable increase in the Pentagon's budget. These are the "accents" that people across the ocean are giving to detente, reaping the real fruits of a mythical threat.

And they wish to transplant these "accents" to West Europe, although people in such West European capitals as Paris or Bonn probably defend the idea and practice of detente more fervently than in Washington and do not attack it so zealously. In West Europe, to judge from the assurances of its leaders, people do not believe in the present "Soviet threat" but are also stepping up military preparations, proceeding from the possibility of a future threat. And this means the same result, which clouds the political climate of East-West relations.

On the false pretext of restoring "equilibrium" they now wish to deploy on West European territory new types of American medium-range nuclear weapons--so-called Eurostrategic weapons aimed at the Soviet Union and other socialist states. This action, which has already received preliminary agreement and awaits final approval at NATO's December session in Brussels, is a truly subversive action. In his Berlin speech L. I. Brezhnev described it as a mine under the very foundations of peace in Europe aimed at upsetting the existing equilibrium of forces in Europe and trying to insure the NATO bloc's military superiority. The Soviet Union naturally cannot tolerate such a dangerous development of events.

The NATO mine is a delayed-action mine. It casts a shadow over the whole situation in Europe in the eighties. In fact, a complex decade is coming to a close. On the one hand, it has moved the world further than any other postwar decade toward peaceful coexistence among states with different sociopolitical systems. On the other hand, this decade has shown that positive changes do not come about as easily as originally expected and occur more slowly than we would like. And now, on the threshold of the eighties, people once again wish, as it were, to push Europe toward the same crossroads between tension and detente at which the choice of detente was made in the seventies. They wish to obscure, dispute and even change that principled choice--in the direction of tension and intensify military danger.

The Soviet Union, together with its allies, subscribes to a different opinion: The real possibility now exists of substantially easing military confrontation on the European Continent. And, placing the accents of its policy, it is acting in that direction. This is the context in which our new initiatives should be understood. For true detente--against its emasculation with new rounds of the arms race. Not to compete in confrontation but to cooperate in a constructive approach.

The political and psychological impact of the Soviet action consists in the fact that it is an act of trust, a door open as an invitation to constructive dialog. The dispute over what should come first--arms limitation or the creation of East-West trust--is reminiscent of the verbal exercises on the subject of which came first--the chicken or the egg. The most correct answer is obviously this: First must come rejection of new rounds of the arms race, of attempts to secure military superiority, of the new egg which the NATO chicken is preparing to lay. This is what the Soviet Union appeals for, accompanying its appeal with an impressive example of good will.

It is now up to the West to have its say. To have its say--and to act, because it is not words that decide matters. "It is up to the Western countries," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said in Berlin. "Their reply will show whether they are prepared to take the peoples' will and vital interests into consideration."

Kozyakov on Western Response

LD121336 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Vladislav Kozyakov commentary]

[Text] It is truly a most urgent question today: How will the United States and other NATO countries answer to the new Soviet initiatives put forward by Leonid Brezhnev in Berlin? The Soviet Union has decided to unilaterally remove 20,000 servicemen, 1,000 tanks and a certain amount of other military equipment from the territory of the German Democratic Republic. The Soviet Union has also declared its readiness to reduce the present number of medium-range nuclear missiles positioned in the western part of the country providing the United States will not deploy additional medium-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe.

Among other Soviet proposals are several steps to further enlarge mutual trust in Europe. One should not necessarily be a military expert to realize the fact that the new Soviet initiatives are a good example. Just imagine how favorable an effect might be for solving disarmament issues and improving the international situation as a whole if the United States follows suit. [sentence as heard] Just imagine the United States announcing its decision to remove some American Armed Forces and armaments from the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany and to undertake other disarmament measures similar to those made by Leonid Brezhnev in his speech in Berlin. Needless to say such a response to Soviet initiatives would mean a great breakthrough in achieving a relaxation in the military field and in consolidating peace in Europe.

Unfortunately the policy-makers in Washington seem to be very far from such a realistic approach to the situation created by the new Soviet initiatives. President Carter and his national security adviser, Brzezinski, have admitted the Soviet proposals have positive aspects. They say they are going to carefully study the suggestions. But their remarks have shown that obsolete conceptions of the confrontation era still dominate in United States policy in respect to military preparations in Europe. Priority is being given not to seeking mutually acceptable disarmament measures but to further increasing NATO's military build up. It looks truly strange that in connection with the new Soviet initiatives on cutting arms the Washington leaders continue to insist on deploying additional American medium-range missiles in Western Europe. They say that NATO countries should first further arm themselves and only after that get down to reducing armaments. To justify their position they claim NATO lags behind the Soviet Union in various weapons and it should counter the growing military threat. This is a typical conception of cold war times which inevitably leads to a new round in the arms race. The experience of the past several decades is an obvious proof of this.

Each time the Pentagon undertook new military preparations it did it under the pretext of catching up with the Soviet Union and of rebuffing its alleged threat. In fact such a policy was always aimed at achieving military superiority and it was the main cause of the dangerous arms race, but at present the continuation of this policy would lead to even more dangerous consequences than before. As Leonid Brezhnev warned in his speech in Berlin, the realization of NATO's plans would inevitably worsen the situation in Europe and would greatly poison the world situation. On the other hand, the new Soviet initiatives offer a realistic way of insuring all European nations, and the American people too, a secure and peaceful life. Now it is up to the leaders of the United States and other Western nations. Their reply to the Soviet initiatives will show whether they are prepared to pursue a truly realistic and reasonable policy in stopping the arms race and bringing about disaramament.

U.S., FRG Reaction

LD132214 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vitaliy Sobolev]

[Text] [Sobolev] Let's hear what two of our correspondents, reporting from two Western states whose position will, to a considerable extent, determine whether or not the NATO bloc will meet the new Soviet peace initiative half-way, have to say. First let's go over to our correspondent in the FRG, Eduard Mnatsakanov.

[Mnatsakanov] Comrade Brezhnev's speech has made a tremendous impression here. Many public, political, youth and trade union organizations have issued statements calling on the FRG Government to accept the proposals of the Soviet Union and other socialist states and to make its own contribution to the cause of military detente.

[Sobolev] Judging by all available evidence, we gather that the discussion on the Soviet proposals was, in the FRG, particularly critical. Is that right?

[Mnatsakanov] Yes, that is correct. To understand the nature of the content of these discussions, one has to have a clear picture of the enormous, the truly vital significance of the Soviet Union's proposals specifically for West Germany and its citizens. After all, the military cliques from the other side of the Atlantic Ocean and NATO have selected this particular country to turn into their nuclear missile warehouse. It is precisely here, on the FRG's territory, that thousands of atomic missiles are tucked away. It is here that the arms race is being speeded up most actively. It is here that one can hear the din of all kinds of provocative military exercises, particularly during the present autumn months. All this is taking place to the accompaniment of anti-Soviet propaganda and brazen lies about the Soviet threat.

[Sobolev] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech in Berlin very convincingly exposed this propaganda and the lies surrounding it. It is, apparently, because of this that West Germany's public organizations reacted with such warmth to the speech. Well, what impression have you formed? Was this call to strengthen peace heard in Bonn to at least some extent?

[Mnatsakanov] Was this call heard in Bonn? It is as yet not easy to provide a simple answer to this question, although, if one is to judge by official and semiofficial reports, the FRG's ruling circles, while welcoming the Soviet proposals with words are, at the same time, clearly yielding to nuclear missile demands from the Pentagon and NATO. As is reported, last Wednesday the Bonn Cabinet came out in favor of having NATO's December session adopt decisions giving the go-ahead for production of atomic medium-range missiles and for their deployment in the FRG and some other states.

A number of foreign and internal forces, the American military clique above all, are stubbornly pushing West Germany away from the policy of peace and detente and into the path of dangerous nuclear missile adventures. However, one would like to think that, in the face of one of the most serious historical choices, prudence, common sense and a feeling of responsibility for the fate of peace in Europe will, in the end, gain the upper hand on the Rhine.

[Sobolev] We are now going over to New York. Our correspondent Vladimir Gerasichev reports:

[Gerasichev] Comrade Brezhnev's Berlin speech has prompted great interest in the United States. The constructive and timely initiatives of the socialist countries, as outlined by Comrade Brezhnev, gave birth among the American public to a legitimate hope for improving Soviet-American relations and for strengthening detente. The American people, representatives of progressive organizations have emphasized in this connection, do not want war, just like any other people. That is why the Americans were justified in their expectations that the peace initiatives put forward by Comrade Brezhnev would meet with an appropriate reaction on the part of the U.S. administration.

[Sobolev] However, so far we can not say that their expectations have come true, correct?

[Gerasichev] Quite correct. One has to say that the first official reaction from the U.S. State Department to the proposals of the socialist countries was reassuring. However, Brzezinski, the President's national security adviser, who went on television soon afterwards, quite openly announced that the United States intends to continue its efforts to build up the nuclear arsenal in Western Europe, contrary to common sense and the hopes of the American people.

It is natural that much was expected here from President Carter's speech at his press conference. Unfortunately, his speech was, in essence, hardly different from that made by his adviser. Having stated that the United States and its NATO allies were engaged in a detailed study of President Brezhnev's speech, having termed the Soviet proposals interesting and much-promising, President Carter at the same time attempted to play down the significance of the Soviet initiatives and the Soviet Union's readiness to reduce the quantity of medium-range nuclear arms in the country's western regions.

[Sobolev] Tell us, has it been noticed in America that the President was unable to come up with convincing arguments to substantiate his position?

[Gerasichev] Observers note today that on this subject the President has used some rather weak logic. Everything that the United States is doing to build up its nuclear weapons and air force in Europe is described as being a necessary and permissible modernization, whereas all that the Soviet Union is doing in this field for the purposes of enhancing the defensive capabilities of the socialist countries is qualified as the creation of qualitatively new types of arms. Clearly it is no coincidence that a question is being asked here today: How can an attitude of this kind be made compatible with the Soviet-American accord and how can one strive for military superiority, in as much as the deployment of new American missiles with nuclear warheads in Western Europe would substantially change the strategic situation on the continent?

[Sobolev] The Soviet initiative has opened up the possibility of averting a new take-off of the arms race, of embarking upon the path of real disarmament, of protecting and multiplying the fruits of detente and peaceful cooperation, states the document of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers concerning results of the USSR party and government delegation's visit to the German Democratic Republic.

It now depends on the United States, the FRG and the other NATO countries as to whether or not this possibility will be used.

Anichkin Critical of Carter Response

LD121728 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

["Europe: Detente or the Arms Race?"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 12, TASS--TASS political commentator Oleg Anichkin writes:

Europe has entered a responsible period of political life when the cardinal question is being solved: Will a new round of the arms race begin or will the development of events advance further along the road of easing tension and strengthening detente in relations between states of the European Continent? The time has come for supplementing political detente with military detente in order to ensure reliable security to the European peoples.

But those forces that think and act in the spirit of the cold war have not yet downed arms. They are doing everything possible to poison the favourable political atmosphere that began to assert itself in Europe. The myth about the "Soviet military threat" is being circulated for these purposes for quite some time already. It was created by those who want to cover up the true essence of their policy. Being set forth are other "doctrines" as well although they cannot be termed as such because they have no scientific substantiation whatsoever and are built on the prejudices of their creators.

The circulators of lies are pursuing one aim--to lessen the vigilance of peoples. They are speculating and parasitizing on the natural striving of the peoples to live in conditions of peace and security.

Such propaganda tactics are used by the United States in its attempts to brainwash the European public with the aim of securing under various pretexts the deployment on West European territory of a new generation of medium-range missiles and cruise missiles armed with nuclear warheads. Washington intends to impose the adoption of this decision on the West European countries at the December session of the NATO Council. And this is taking place despite the fact that lately the United States is increasing the size of the troops on the territory of West European countries, creating arsenals of the most up-to-date weapons and re-equipping its air force with the latest types of combat planes. The United States has handed over to NATO the AWACs early warning system which, as is well known, serves the targeting of nuclear-missile weapons at socialist countries. Aimed against the socialist community is the American 6th Fleet that sails in the Mediterranean Sea. Most of the American overseas military bases, which have half a million servicemen and up to 12,000 units of nuclear weapons, are located in Western Europe.

The new peaceful Soviet Initiative serve the aims of lessening the military confrontation in Europe, of consolidating security and ensuring peace. They open the opportunities of preventing further spiralling of the arms race, of advancing along the road of real disarmament, of preserving and increasing the fruit of detente and peaceful cooperation.

The Soviet peaceful initiative is welcomed and regarded as an all-embracing program aimed at ensuring security in Europe. It gives a clear perspective for European peoples to live in conditons of peace. The Soviet Union, as this is noted in many countries, shows its peacefulness and good will not in words, but in deeds.

When at the latest press conference President of the United States J. Carter spoke about the new foreign policy initatives of the Soviet Union and, specifically, about Soviet medium-range missiles, he said a sacramental phrase that the USSR has such a mobile missile that cannot be destroyed by a preventive strike even if the U.S. allies wish so.

Thus alongside with other "arguments", the President was obviously striving to justify the need of deploying new types of U.S. nuclear missile weapons in the territory of Western Europe. What did he mean when speaking about a "preventive strike"? Does not this show that the U.S. "doctrine" of dealing the first nuclear strike is being revived and is not the United States pushing its allies in NATO to this road?

If this is so, there is no special need to prove that things can go to the aggravation of the situation, to the kindling of the seat of tensions in Europe against the will and contrary to the wishes of its peoples. Such an approach of the United States to the destinies of the world and security of peoples, above all in the European Continent, cannot but cause serious alarm and concern.

Brandt: Brezhnev Initiative Is Opportunity

ID131947 Moscow TASS in English 1809 GMT 13 Oct 79 ID

[Text] Bonn, October 13, TASS--Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany Willy Brandt made a statement about the Berlin speech by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev.

The statement published by the newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU says the German and the European history of the last one hundred or, at least, the last fifty years abounds in lost opportunities. The response of some of the politicans to the Berlin speech by Leonid Brezhnev causes apprehensions that this opportunity for negotiations in order to safeguard peace may again be missed.

The statements by Leonid Brezhnev as well as the leader of the GDR Erich Honecker have first and foremost given the lie to the assertions of those who thought it already possible to dismiss detente as defunct. As to those who wish to strengthen and complement the relaxation of political tensions by agreements in the military field have seen that some important points of contact have now been clarified.

The intention announced by Leonid Brezhnev to reduce the number of soldiers and tanks cannot be presented as some act of perfidy. The fact is that the statement about unilateral reductions was coupled with a readiness to negotiate the problem of missiles. It would be an act of levity to miss the opportunity for important and constructive negotiations.

Nobody can seriously hope to expect that the measures taken unilaterally will exceed what was formulated as the objective of the negotiations. The NATO and the governments of the Western countries parties to NATO would do right if they took advantage of the Soviet proposals to hold negotiations about adequate measures, to balance, in the words of the chairman of the Socialist Democratic Party of Germany, the two security systems.

Referring to the question about the alignment of forces between the two military groupings, Willy Brandt is of the opinion that the U.S. Congress will ratify the SALT II treaty even before this year is out.

This would confirm, he said, the ability of the U.S. administration to provide leadership and would at the same time create the basis for a discussion--based on reciprocal confidence--of what is indispensable for the security of Western Europe and how one can possible avoid a further unnecessary spiral of arms race.

With regard to the scale of military exercises and their supervision, the speech by President Brezhnev contains some new aspects in the field of confidence-building measures. It would be correct to continue in the near future the discussion of these questions since this can lead to substantive conclusions with regard to the forthcoming Madrid conference (November 1980) of states which participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

COMMENT ON CONGRESS', PRESIDENT'S POSITIONS ON SALT

Carter Call for SALT II Ratification

ID141535 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 14 Oct 79 ID

[Text] An interview with Carter, president of the United States of America, in which he was asked a number of questions concerning the SALT II treaty, has been broadcast on U.S. radio.

Replying to the questions the President said, in particular: If this treaty is rejected, it will be a heavy blow to our country, to our security and to chances for peace throughout the world. At the same time, the treaty's rejection would put an end to the 30-year-long process of subjecting nuclear arms to control the world over, and particularly in our country and the Soviet Union. It will be very difficult to start everything anew. Even if we start new talks which take 2 or 3 years, or perhaps even 7 years, the probability of the final product being almost identical to the treaty we have just concluded would be very great [velika].

Criticism of Senator Church's Stand

ID131308 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 13 Oct 79 ID

[Text] Comment by Stanislav Kondrashov on discussions underway in the United States on the SALT II treaty.

Now what's more important, the reelection of Senator Frank Church from the state of Idaho or ratification of the Soviet-American Salt II Treaty? The question might seem strange, but certainly justifiable. Recent events in the United States bear this out. For the American and Soviet people, and for the whole world, the SALT II treaty is of course more important. Senator Church just can't (?outweigh) the importance of an arms limitation treaty. And, by the way, he has come out in support of SALT II. But when it's a matter of his political future the senator is prepared to dump the treaty in order to be reelected in 1980.

Senator Frank Church is at the source of the current campaign about the so-called Soviet military threat in Cuba. He was the first to demand a withdrawal of Soviet troops from Cuba, insisting that otherwise the United States Senate would not ratify SALT II. He was the one who set the tone in the discussion and now Carter's administration is involved in the campaign. He doesn't know how to save face and get out of the situation that is complicating Soviet-American relations.

And so what is motivating Senator Church? United States news analysts say the motives are of a personal nature. In Idaho Church has a reputation as a liberal, so he wants to counter the attacks of the conservatives who don't want him reelected. The conservatives accuse him of being too soft. He is trying to prove how tough he is. That's what is really behind the senator's actions which threaten the fate of an important agreement that would decrease the chance of war and promote the relaxation of international tension.

The senator is prepared to exchange favorable prospects for Soviet-American relations for several thousand votes in his home state, and it's still not even clear whether or not the voters would go for this exchange. Here I'd like to recall that opponents of efforts to ease international tension wanted to make the SALT II talks hinge on other issues, such as the problems in Ethiopia and so-called Cuban presence in Zaire. Later the initiators admitted the campaign was groundless. At that time Senator Church had a more responsible approach and came out against these detrimental actions. But now, when Senator Church is up for reelection, he is not against attaching the fate of SALT II to his reelection in Idaho.

But let's forget about the senator and make a more general analysis, since he is not the only one who puts personal interests above international security. James Reston has written about what he calls chaos in United States foreign policy, which is devised both by the White House and Capitol Hill. He noted that it's hard to remember a time when Congress was so divided and representatives so concerned about personal local interests or state interests, and so unconcerned about doing their main duty or coping with the complicated problems of the eighties. After citing several examples of the chaos Reston concludes that each senator now is a State Department of his own. What patience and restraint countries negotiating with the United States must have when they are forced to deal not with one but hundreds of departments of state, and not one national policy but a policy for Idaho and a policy for Louisiana and so on.

A question arises which American legislators usually address to others, but which is more pertinent to them: Is the United States a reliable partner in international affairs, and is the United States prepared to carry out agreements signed by official representatives? Under the Nixon administration Arthur Schlesinger coined the phrase "the imperial Presidency," now it's possible to talk about an imperial Congress. In structure the United States Senate is very similar to the ancient Roman Senate, but now it seems that United States senators would like to assume the powers of their ancient Roman counterparts. It's a different world today, however, and modern senators have much greater responsibility and there is no way to get around this responsibility with excuses about American democracy and its unique mechanism for deciding United States foreign policy.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD141748 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 14 Oct 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program conducted by Moscow Radio commentator Boris Andrianov, with international affairs journalist Eduard Vasilyevich Kovalev and observer for KOMMUNIST Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov]

[Text] [Andrianov] All of us, esteemed radio listeners, are witnesses to how everywhere these days the new Soviet peace-loving initiatives are being discussed with interest. They were voiced in Berlin by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, who headed the party and government delegation of the USSR, which was on an official friendly visit to the GDR to take part in the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the first state of workers and peasants on German soil. And it is notable that on the eve of this jubilee mankind learned of the new proposals directed at the further development of the policy of detente and the consolidation of peace in Europe and throughout the world which were put forward on behalf of the Soviet Union, the GDR and other participant-states of the Warsaw Pact.

Soviet Peace Initiatives

The progressive public of the whole world is placing high value on the new convincing manifestations of the peaceful disposition and the good will of our country and its allies in the socialist community--the decision to reduce unilaterally the number of Soviet troops in central Europe and also the readiness of the Soviet Union to reduce, in comparison with the present level, the quantity of medium-range nuclear weapons deployed in the western regions of the USSR. Even the bourgeois organs of the mass media have been forced to recognize the constructive character of the Soviet proposals, and also the fact that the bosses of the Pentagon and NATO, who have unfolded a mendacious campaign in exaggerating the mythical Soviet danger, have found themselves in a difficult position.

[Nekrasov] And today, a week after the speech of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, one can say quite definitely that his speech has turned out to be not simply the center of attention of the world public but has even attracted the most lively interest of the world public, including the public of the Western countries. An enlivened discussion is in progress and, let us say directly, an acute political struggle is developing on those problems discussed in the speech. I do not think it is difficult to find explanations for this fact. In the situation of the hysterical, one might say, propaganda campaign which has been unleashed by the military-industrial complex together with the NATO military with the aim of undermining the atmosphere of detente and reviving the spirit of the Cold War, in Berlin a word of wise caution has been delivered concerning what such actions may lead to. And, the main thing, it was stressed that it is not yet too late to stop the dangerous development of events.

Real possibilities were pointed out for the resolution of the key international problems of the present stage on the basis of reason and good will. This statesmanlike approach, imbued with a concern for the fundamental interests of literally the whole of mankind, has also been, as a matter of fact, a reason why the proposals put forward in Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech have evoked more general interest and attention than any other single foreign policy initiative of our country in recent years.

[Kovalev] It seems to me that it would be correct to note immediately that the attention of observers and broad public circles has primarily proved to be concentrated on the Soviet proposals dealing with the most acute sector, given the present atmosphere--the question of averting a new round of the nuclear arms race in Europe.

As radio listeners will recall, this is a matter of plans to deploy on the territory of West European members of NATO new American nuclear missiles capable of striking a blow against the Soviet Union and other European socialist countries. This is the so-called modernization of NATO, or bringing its arms up to strength [dovooruzheniye].

NATO Opposition

From what is being said and written at this time in the West, the attentive and objective observer can reach only one conclusion. NATO would like to work not toward the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Europe but towards a further stepping up of them, toward deployment, under the guise of bringing its arms up to strength and modernization, of qualitatively new systems of weaponry in the western part of the continent. The concern of the bloc leaders is concentrated on how to be a little more convincing now in presenting the peoples with the story on the necessity of modernized weaponry, and in justifying additional expenditure connected with its production and deployment, and forcing them to believe that the appearance in West Europe of a new generation of missiles will allegedly make peace more stable and make security more reliable. A constituent part of this program from the very beginning has been the whipping up through the use of well known propaganda methods the various fears over the Soviet military threat or the violation of the balance of forces in Europe.

[Andrianov] And this, Eduard Vasilyevich, is why I think world public opinion has received with such interest the firm declaration of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in Berlin. The assertion that allegedly the Soviet Union is increasing on the European Continent its military might on a scale not required for defense needs has nothing to do with reality.

[Kovalev] Against this background the unworthy attempts by certain circles of the aggressive NATO bloc to belittle the significance of the present Soviet proposals look very odious. Being unable to deny the presence in them of positive elements, these circles at the same time are portraying them as being insufficient, without adducing any proof, or are simply striving to portray them as some sort of maneuver to distract, aimed allegedly at undermining their Atlantic solidarity. In connection with this, no serious arguments, facts or reasons are being cited. They are banking, as before, on whipping up an atmosphere of fear of the mythical threat from the East.

Everything indicates that the NATO circles, pinning their hopes on force, are continuing to follow the well-trodden path of empty talking about peace and specific material preparations for war. The Western press reported some days ago that a group of highly placed experts from NATO headquarters has decided to recommend the plan drawn up by the Pentagon for the deployment in West Europe of 572 missiles with nuclear warheads, including 108 Pershing-2 ballistic missiles and 464 cruise missiles. It is quite natural that the implementation of such designs is calculated to insure the military supremacy of the North Atlantic bloc. This would dangerously change the strategic situation in Europe and would lead to a pernicious violation of the military equilibrium which exists here, would greatly poison the international atmosphere as a whole and would undermine the process of detente.

Let us, if just briefly, examine certain arguments of the NATO strategists. For example, they talk of the violation of the European equilibrium by the Soviet Union. One can hardly regard this argument as valid or serious. As is well known to NATO leaders, the Soviet medium-range systems only counterbalance the so-called Atlantic forward-based systems which are already deployed in West Europe and are capable of striking targets on Soviet territory. A certain modernization of our systems over these years has only been in reply to the ceaseless improvement by NATO countries of the so-called forward-based systems.

I would also like to stress here that the present nuclear missile plans of NATO in Europe are no longer a modernization but an attempt to change the qualitative level of opposition, an attempt to achieve unilateral military advantages and violate, in favor of the West, the global equilibrium which has come about by this time.

These plans can be evaluated also as an attempt to get round the SALT II agreement, which was concluded on the basis of recognizing the principles of equal security and renouncing the achievement of military supremacy by one side over the other. As the Western press is now reporting, the Americans are intending to introduce additionally on the territory of Western Europe about 600 medium-range missiles, as we have already mentioned. These missiles will thereby become strategic weaponry, according to the definition of the SALT II treaty, but at the same time will not come under its effect. I would like to note that the Soviet Union, after all, does not have at its disposal such systems in the Western Hemisphere, and is not intending to deploy them there. It is quite clear that in such a situation the Soviet Union and the countries of the Warsaw Pact will not be able to leave unanswered this attempt of NATO to insure for itself a unilateral military advantage.

[Andrianov] Much depends, moreover, on the position of the FRG, which Leonid Ilich Brezhnev addressed in particular, pointing out that those who determine FRG policy are today faced with a very serious choice. In the event that the program for additional deployment of American weapons on FRG territory, aimed at the USSR and its allies, is implemented, the situation in the FRG itself would deteriorate significantly. It would inevitably bear the full burden of the consequences, should this new weaponry ever be put into operation by its masters.

[Kovalev] You are right, Boris Vasilyevich. Claims being made in the FRG now, for example, to the effect that West Germany, being a nonnuclear NATO country, supposedly cannot bear the main responsibility for NATO's plans to modernize and to bring its arms up to strength, do not correspond to the real state of affairs. In reality, although it is formally a nonnuclear state, the FRG has more heavy nuclear weapons on its territory than a European power like France, for example, has of its own. I would like to note that the Soviet Union has never strived, and is not striving now, for military superiority. It calls on the countries of Western Europe to display a realistic attitude and wise statesmanship and, by rejecting the plans for deploying a new generation of U.S. missiles on its territory, secure life in conditions of equal security and peace for all European peoples. This is precisely what Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said in Berlin. And one of the best proofs of the sincerity of these words is his speech itself and the specific program of practical actions advanced therein.

[Nekrasov] Well first of all I would like to say a few words about the situation in the United States. In no way can it be called unambiguous. On the one hand, and precisely among the American military, plans for this modernization of nuclear missiles weaponry in Europe have been drafted. But on the other hand, American state leaders are displaying obvious interest in the speediest ratification of the SALT II treaty. In Vienna the communique on the talks between President Carter and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev speaks of the need to take further action on conditions for maintaining equal security for the sides, and the American public is waiting for real steps toward both a lowering of military tension in Europe and talks, new talks, which are already being called SALT III. Hence the ambiguity of the situation.

General Rogers, the new NATO commander in chief, for example, immediately declared the Soviet proposals to be propaganda, hiding the Soviet Union's desire to continue expanding its combat forces and preserve its military superiority.

Well, one doesn't expect much from Rogers and generals like him, whom the American people aptly name brass hats. But American politicians should be aware of the fact that it is impossible not to take into account the mood of public opinion, particularly at a time when the new presidential election campaign is becoming increasingly close with every month. And from this stems a certain mixed--as American observers put it--attitude to the Soviet proposal and the desire to reserve judgment.

I would like to talk about a rather interesting television press conference given by Mr Brzezinski, national security adviser to the President, which took place 3 days after Comrade Brezhnev's speech. In answer to journalists' questions about what he, Brzezinski, thinks of the proposals in this speech, Brzezinski replied: Before giving a conclusive and final answer we must study this speech with great care. There are some positive elements in what Mr Brezhnev said but there are also other elements which we must take fully into consideration.

This is followed by another question from the journalists: The Soviet Union is taking a unilateral step in reducing armed forces and arms. Would it be possible for us to respond to this step without further talks? Could we also make a unilateral statement on reduction of the number of NATO forces in Western Europe by a given figure, or something like this? Brzezinski obviously doesn't feel very comfortable. The steps Mr Brezhnev announced, he says, appeared just a few hours ago. But for our listeners' information we can say that they appeared 70 hours before his interview. But he uses the expression "a few hours" in an attempt to avoid giving a definite answer. And he continues: It would be premature to give a quick answer, although here he states that the plans for modernization of nuclear forces in Europe will be continued.

The journalists are not reassured. They ask Brzezinski another question: But if the United States deploys new nuclear weapons in Western Europe, then the Soviet proposals will obviously be withdrawn by the Soviet Union. Don't you get the impression that we are breaking away from this initiative in this way? This is followed by the answer: I don't want to discuss Mr Brezhnev's proposals in detail as yet, for they require detailed study and a well thought-out answer. They need not only reflection but consultations also. And so forth in this way.

As you can see, the position is very veiled.

[Andrianov] Perhaps the situation has become clearer now, Vadim Nikolayevich?

[Nekrasov] This cannot be stated outright, since no direct statements were made in favor of the proposals submitted by Comrade Brezhnev. American observers on television and in the press, commenting on the recent speech made by Carter at a press conference, note that it possible to detect a certain skepticism with regard to the Soviet proposals. But there is no direct refusal to review and study them.

[Kovalev] There are, of course, real peddlers of fear and lies who, the more they shout for help, the more normal people concerned with the fate of the world shout bravo with respect to the speech in Berlin. But it is not these malevolent people who set the tone of the commentaries on the very important speech made by Leonid Ilich in Berlin. In the bourgeois press of Western Europe, the approach, as you have already noted, is ambiguous and contradictory. Thus London's FINANCIAL TIMES, calling for extreme caution, writes in the same breath of solid foundations for careful examination of the Soviet initiative, which could, and we say must, have serious consequences for the talks in Vienna, which have long been deadlocked.

The West German NEUE RUHRZEITUNG expresses what is probably the mood prevalent in the West when it notes: The West must react very seriously to the initiative of the Soviet Union and in no way drown it in empty talk. The aim is clear--fewer arms with a secure balance. Possibilities for this exist. The British paper THE GUARDIAN openly recognizes that one cannot refuse to examine the proposals submitted by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

PRC 'Propaganda' Campaign

[Andrianov] The new Soviet initiative on problems of military detente and disarmament has provoked such international response that even Beijing has not dared ignore this event. It is no secret that a definite approach to any proposals by the Soviet Union aimed at strengthening peace and the security of mankind has been formulated in the Chinese capital long ago. To put it simply, Beijing has pretended more than once that such proposals just do not exist. But this time, Beijing propaganda simply could not pull off this trick. XINHUA reported, although with a short delay, on the end of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's visit to the GDR, and quoted excerpts from the joint communique on the results of the visit of the Soviet party and government delegation to the GDR, including those concerning China. The official Chinese press even published responses to Leonid Ilich's speech in Berlin.

But here, Beijing propaganda remained faithful to previous anti-Soviet directions and published a tendentious selection of negative statements by representatives of the West in connection with the new Soviet initiative. In this way, Beijing against demonstrated its hostile attitude to any step made by the Soviet Union in the interests of military detente and disarmament, and again confirmed that it stands together with the enemies of peace and the security of peoples.

[Kovalev] By the way, Boris Vasilyevich, this hostile position of the PRC was also demonstrated by Hua Guofeng's statements at a press conference in Beijing a week ago. Speaking to journalists from France, the FRG, Britain and Italy who are accredited in the Chinese capital, the chairman of the CCP Central Committee and premier of the PRC State Council stated that a strong and united West Europe is very important for preserving peace and security in Europe and the whole world. One doesn't need long to see what lies behind these words. All explanations on this subject were provided repeatedly by Beijing officials themselves in calling on West European countries to step up armaments and increase NATO's military might, since they said a threat from the East is hanging over Western Europe.

Of Hua Guofeng's statement at the press conference, the French paper L'HUMANITE wrote that this Beijing politician continues to advocate a strong and united Western Europe such as the capitalists are creating, one which promotes neither detente nor the interests of the peoples of Europe.

[Andrianov] As is known, Hua Guofeng received journalists from France, the FRG, Britain and Italy in connection with his visit to those countries which begins today. According to the Beijing leader, he intends during the trip to meet statesmen of the four aforementioned countries to discuss international questions of mutual interest. Since Beijing's openly hostile attitude to the problems of detente and disarmament are well known to the public of Western Europe, that public is expressing very understandable alarm over Hua Guofeng's visit. By all appearances the top men in Beijing have decided to take this into account--at least in words. Here is what a correspondent of the British agency REUTER, Christopher Pritchard, reported. He was one of the 35 Western journalists invited to the press conference. Hua Guofeng said China is not against detente as such.

This statement, the French paper PARISIEN LIBERE has written, is meant to reassure the public of the countries which Hua Guofeng will visit. But, this French press organ stressed, China's basic position remains unchanged. Grounds for this judgment were provided by Hua Guofeng himself at the same press conference, which was held on the 30th anniversary of the GDR. The Beijing leader breathed not a word about this notable jubilee of the first state of workers and peasants on German soil. On the other hand, he did not fail to hold forth about the "reunification of Germany," by whom Beijing means the swallowing up by the FRG of the socialist state, the GDR. And, of course, Hua Guofeng did not refrain from the pronouncements, already repeated ad nauseam, about the intrigues of the hegemonists, which, he says, render detente unattainable. This gives some idea of the political luggage that the Beijing leader is taking with him to western Europe.

[Kovalev] I think Hua Guofeng is counting on making use, on his trip, of certain NATO circles opposed to detente in Europe.

Japanese Elections Reviewed

[Andrianov] Among events abroad that have attracted the attention of the international public, the early parliamentary elections in Japan have taken a prominent place. They were held last Sunday--exactly a month after the Ohira government dissolved the lower chamber of parliament. Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party took this step quite calculatedly, ignoring opposition protests. The Japanese conservatives decided to give battle to the opposition parties in an early election and win back the stable majority in the lower chamber of parliament that they lost 3 years ago. Figuratively speaking, the leaders of the Liberal Democrats hoped to get a controlling share of seats that would enable them to impose their will in Japan's supreme legislative organ without regard for the opinion of the opposition. Let me remind you that, until the lower chamber of parliament was dissolved, the representatives of the Liberal Democratic Party had 249 seats in it out of 511. Characteristically, during the election campaign the conservative leaders were so sure of a favorable outcome for themselves from the voting that they not only did not conceal, but even publicized their planned success.

[Nekrasov] Yes. Prime Minister Ohira himself, among others, speaking at the numerous election meetings and press converences that we've read about, each time expressed the firm conviction that his ruling party would get at least 271 seats in the lower chamber of parliament.

[Andrianov] Progressive Japanese observers assume that the conservative's confidence was based on belief in the power of money. After all, in the so-called free world, where everything is bought and sold, and where hard cash openly rules, even votes can be had for cash down and you have to have a lot of money. It has been estimated, for example, that in the 1976 elections the Liberal Democratic Party spent about 500 million yen to get each of its representatives into parliament. And this time the "price of a seat" has risen by nearly half. But this doesn't seem to have worried Prime Minister Ohira, who knew that his party, in power for nearly a quarter of a century, was not short of money. It had been provided by big business, whose interests the Japanese conservatives represent.

[Nekrasov] All the more unexpected, therefore, for the ruling party in Japan, was the result of the early parliamentary elections, in which the conservatives are reported to have suffered virtual defeat. The American journalist (Chapman) working in Tokyo, has called the election results a shattering defeat for the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan.

[Andrianov] Even by resorting to blatant bribery, the conservatives managed to obtain not 271 seats, as they had hoped, but a mere 248--one less than they had in the previous lower chamber of parliament.

Taken aback by the result, Prime Minister Ohira stated that it was "a cruel verdict of the people." In the upper echelons of the Liberal Democratic Party, they are now trying to explain the election setback by saying they were not ready; though, as we've already said, it was precisely the conservatives who, in dissolving parliament, had banked on winning an early election. But, of course, that's not the point. The population of the country has expressed a kind of "vote of no confidence" against the ruling party, whose true face has been shown by the staggering corruption that has envelloped even the higher circles of the Liberal Democrats.

Fresh in everyone's minds are the scandalous bribes by U.S. aircraft-building firms to highly placed Japanese officials, the hushed up financial machinations of officials of government organizations, and the many other disreputable actions of the conservative politicians. A storm of indignation among the widest strata of the population has been aroused by the plots by the conservative leaders to increase taxation of the masses of the people on the pretext of normalizing the country's financial system. The Japanese voters have clearly demonstrated at the polls their negative attitude toward the anti-people policy of the ruling party. It is relevant to recall that during the election campaign the conservative leaders staged an anti-Soviet demarche over the so-called problem of the northern territories. This can hardly have prompted an increase in the popularity of the Liberal Democrats among a population dissatisfied with the ruling party's course toward militarization, the strengthening of the Japanese-American military-political alliance and the broadening of dangerous ties with Beijing.

[Nekrasov] Incidentally, one can add that the election failure of the Liberal Democratic Party has aroused concern above all in Beijing, as reported in particular by a correspondent of the Japanese newspaper NIHON KEIZAI from the Chinese capital. According to him, it is believed in Beijing that if the Liberal Democrat administration, deprived of a firm majority in parliament, should become unstable, it will have difficulty in adhering to an active policy with regard to China. This, translated into comprehensible language, denotes the course of the Japanese conservatives toward significant cooperation with the Beijing leadership for far from seemly purposes.

[Andrianov] The defeat of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan in the elections indisputably means that the political climate in that country, once so favorable to the ruling party, is changing. It lost, and lost because contrary to the demand of the times it had decided to turn the country's political course sharply to the right. This can serve as an object lesson to those forces in the capitalist world that are trying to ignore the vital interests of the working masses, and are trying to discount the desire of the peoples for lasting and stable peace in the world.

Our time is up. Thank you very much for your attention, listeners.

COMMENTS ON SOVIET ANTIHEGEMONISM PROPOSAL AT UN

PRAVDA Article

LD111601 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[Political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov article: "Hegemonism is Inadmissible"]

[Text] The Soviet Union has advanced a new initiative for normalizing the political climate in the world. It has suggested discussing at the current UN General Assembly [UNGA] session the question of the inadmissibility of hegemonism in international relations.

Suggesting that this be included on the agenda as an important and urgent question, the USSR proceeds from the premise that any manifestations of the policy of hegemonism, that is, the desire of some states to dominate or, to put it more simply, to rule over other states and peoples, undermine the foundations of world peace and lead to the creation of hotbeds of tension and the outbreak of military conflicts.

Although the term "hegemonism" only recently passed into political usage, it signifies a phenomenon which is far from new, a phenomenon which, it may be said, has been known from time immemorial. It is the desire for world rule, for dominion over other countries and peoples. It has left a bloody stain at all stages of man's history, but it has shown itself above all in the era of imperialism, becoming a striking embodiment of its predatory nature.

Historical experience attests that the policy of hegemonism invariably leads to wars, which condemn all the peoples involved in them to countless sacrifice and inexpressible suffering. That is why, from the first days of its existence, the Soviet State has resolutely opposed the domination of some states by others and the resort in international relations to force, tyranny and diktat.

The Soviet people gave 20 million human lives to thwart Hitler's plans for world rule and to bury hegemonism in its fascist manifestation. The Japanese militarists' hegemonist aspirations to rule in the Far East and to "gather the eight points of the compass under one roof" cost the Asian peoples and particularly the Chinese people much.

To this day the desire to rule over other states and to impose their will by force has not left the imperialists and those possessed by great-power chauvinism. Is there not a hint of hegemonism in bellicose U.S. circles' predilection for the role of world gendarme, which has many manifestations--from the ignominiously failed Indochinese adventure to the present plans for punitive operations in the Near East or in Central America by the notorious "quick reaction corps?"

Was not the Chinese aggression against Vietnam, when the Beijing leadership conceived the plan of "teaching a lesson" by force of arms to the neighboring sovereign country, an eloquent example of hegemonism in practice? The resort to crude force, to "fist-law," in international relations is particularly dangerous in our day, when mass destruction weapons can be put to the service of hegemonism.

In recent years peace-loving states have succeeded in substantially easing international tension and normalizing the political climate, and thereby reducing the danger of a new world war.

"The all-European conference," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted in his speech in Berlin, "adopted the **Final Act**--a sort of charter of the European people's security, a charter for a peaceful life and peaceful relations among states." This document solemnly confirms the fundamental significance of the principles of states' sovereign equality, the nonuse or threat of force, the peaceful settlement of disputes, noninterference in internal affairs, and the right of peoples to dispose of their own destiny.

Many important UNGA decisions on problems of peace and security and a number of multilateral and bilateral treaties on the limitation of the arms race, including the strategic arms race, have considerably expanded the legal basis for peaceful coexistence among states and reduced opportunities for tyranny and diktat in the international arena.

Under these conditions the elimination of any manifestations of hegemonism from international life becomes an important part of the struggle for detente and peace. Essentially hegemonism is directly opposed to the principle of the **equality** of states and peoples--a principle which the UN Charter directs should be asserted by every means in relations between states.

The time has come for all UN members to adopt an unambiguous stance with regard to hegemonism in order to bar the way to any half-formed urges toward hegemonism and the abuse of force in world affairs.

To this noble end the Soviet Union suggested including this issue on the agenda of the current UNGA session and submitted for its examination a draft resolution "On the Inadmissibility of the Policy of Hegemonism in International Relations."

The point of the Soviet proposal is that no state or group of states must under any circumstances and for any reasons lay claims to hegemony in international affairs or seek to gain a dominant position either in the world as a whole or in any part of it. The Soviet Union believes that the United Nations should condemn the policy of hegemonism in any form and emphasize its incompatibility with the UN Charter and with the task of preserving peace and strengthening international security.

The constructive examination of the question of the inadmissibility of hegemonism in international relations at a forum as authoritative as the UNGA would undoubtedly promote the further normalization of the international climate and the strengthening of world peace.

Following the UNGA, the Security Council, of which the five nuclear powers are permanent members, could express itself against hegemonism and brand it a threat to man's peaceful future. The states' rejection of the policy of hegemonism could in the future be embodied in a broad international agreement.

The new Soviet initiative accords with the vital interests of all peoples and expresses man's peace-loving aspirations. It should meet with a positive response from all those who approach the management of international affairs on the basis of equality and in the interests of detente and peace. It is to be hoped that the UNGA will approach the examination of the Soviet draft with a high measure of responsibility.

NOVOYE VREMYA Article

LD111331 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 41, 5 Oct 79 pp 7-8 LD

[V. Kravtsov article under the rubric "The United Nations": "Important and Timely"]

[Text] The attention of UN member states and the world public is currently attracted by the Soviet Union's proposal that the question on "the inadmissibility of the policy of hegemonism in international relations" be discussed during the 34th UN General Assembly session now taking place. This is a major and important proposal. It ranks with those projects--already implemented or at the discussion stage--which are designed to create an international legal structure for states' mutual relations which fully accords with the requirements of peaceful development and the improvement of the overall political climate.

What in essence introduces complications and also, at times, conflicts into international relations, thereby seriously jeopardizing the foundations of world peace? As in mutual relations among people, it is the desire to impose one's own will upon others and to interfere in their internal affairs, the desire to hold sway over or dominate others by resorting to force or the threat of force. These things are as old as the hills but both individuals and entire peoples always place the same interpretation upon them.

From the first years of its existence Soviet Russia inscribed upon its banners: Equality Among States, Just and Democratic Peace Among Peoples. It did not just proclaim this. Before 1917 there had evidently never been a case in history where a country had waived, of its own volition, treaties advantageous for itself but inequitable for its neighbors, as the young Soviet republic did. Remember the voluntary granting of independence to a former part of tsarist Russia--Finland? Not only in the prewar period, the USSR's motto was, and still remains, invariable: Equality and Sovereignty for the Peoples and Renunciation of Interference in Their Internal Affairs. We expect the same from other states. Let no state or group of states adopt a dominant position in relation to others. It is with relations of equality, friendship and cooperation among all peoples that socialism counters the system of domination, the kind of hierarchy among states, that accords with the very nature of imperialism and that the modern chauvinists are attempting to duplicate.

In recent years, when the dominant trend in the international arena has been the trend toward detente (we welcome that kind of domination!), the Soviet Union has advanced a whole series of proposals aimed at insuring equitable and peaceful relations among people. This applies to so-called regional measures. In Europe, on the basis of positive results already achieved in relaxing tension, we propose the conclusion of something like a nonaggression pact among all participant states of the Helsinki conference--which would lead to the renunciation of first use of both nuclear and conventional weapons. This also applies to measures of a worldwide nature such as the proposal for the conclusion of a world treaty on the nonuse of force in international relations. This proposal was approved by the vast majority of UN member states.

The initiative concerning hegemonism runs in the same direction. The Soviet Union is proposing that all UN member countries adopt an unambiguous stance: They should condemn hegemonism and bar the way to any attempted moves in the direction of hegemonism in world affairs. The inadmissibility of the policy of hegemonism must be elevated to the level of a principle to be strictly implemented.

The Soviet Union's new proposal grasps the very essence of the events taking place in the world arena, and, as it were, synthesizes the experience accumulated of late in the struggle for detente. Indeed, on the one hand there is evidence of considerable relaxation of tension and diminution of the danger of the outbreak of a new world war. On the other hand there is the continuing and even mounting resistance to detente by those forces which are seeking to reverse the development of international relations. The Soviet Union's initiative in the United Nations to a considerable extent accords with the buildup of efforts to overcome such resistance.

The Soviet draft resolution submitted for UN examination condemns the policy of hegemonism, in whatever forms it may be manifested, as incompatible with the fundamental principles of the UN Charter and with the task of preserving peace and consolidating international security. Moreover, on behalf of the peoples of the United Nations, it declares that states or groups of states must never under any circumstances or for any motives whatsoever lay claim to hegemony in international affairs nor seek to occupy a dominant position either in the world as a whole or in any particular region of the world. What is there in such a resolution that any country whatever might find unsuitable, unless it were seeking sway and domination over other countries?

The initiative is very timely because the task of protecting mankind from the threat posed by the policy of hegemonism (let us recall that in the past it has invariably led to war) is especially urgent just now when means of mass destruction could be placed at the service of such a policy. This policy, as experience--especially lately--testifies, is already leading to the creation of seats of tension, the destabilization of the international situation and direct aggression with all its tragic consequences for the peoples. The condemnation of the policy of hegemonism on a world scale would be a substantial contribution to consolidating detente and peace.

Will it be easy to achieve this? The UN debate will provide the answer. But it can already be said that the policy of hegemonism--and this is also an indicator of the contemporary state of affairs in the world--is encountering the resolute disapproval of an enormous number of states. This is evidenced, in particular, by the many joint communiques and reports published after talks between the leaders of various states. The program for the further development of cooperation between the Soviet Union and France in favor of detente and peace signed in April by L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and French President Giscard D'Estaing says: "The Soviet Union and France emphasize that a position-of-strength policy, a bloc policy or a hegemonist policy is incompatible with peace and detente, just as it is incompatible with the interests of the peoples, and it must in no way be encouraged."

The so-called small and medium countries, especially those which are suffering as a result of this policy, have a vital interest in rebuffing hegemonism. Certain figures in the West are nostalgic for those far-off times when a handful of colonial powers exploited the natural and human resources of the greater part of the rest of the world. The "tap" was in the hands of the monopolies, which used to siphon off from the dependent countries as much oil as they needed.

Those times are disappearing into oblivion. But even today ominous relapses into colonialist policy and a desire for hegemonism in the most various corners of the world--above all where there are stocks of raw materials which are in short supply--are still manifesting themselves. It is precisely to the desire on the part of the United States to establish itself in the role of an "omnipotent power" which is "permitted to do anything it wants" that one can attribute the creation of the "quick-reaction corps"--armed forces for interference in the affairs of other countries, above all the oil-producing states of the Near East and Persian Gulf zone.

Other states, too, condemn the policy of hegemonism. In the final analysis it is opposed--at least verbally--by China, although China manipulates the term "hegemonism" for its own purposes, and also by Washington in one form or another. So it is difficult to object to the Soviet proposal that the renunciation of the policy of hegemonism in all its manifestations be embodied in a broad international agreement without thereby exposing the covert motives of one's own policy.

The new Soviet initiative confirms that the USSR is actively and purposefully struggling for peace, detente, equality of the peoples and their honest and equitable cooperation. The whole world has seen once again that the Soviet Union and the socialist community are themselves confidently marching along the road of peace and of building a new society and are pointing out the prospects of a peaceful future for all the peoples of the world. This is the most important precondition for the solution of the problems which mankind is encountering on the threshold of the 21st century.

CASTRO'S UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPEECH REPORTED

LD122230 Moscow TASS in English 1939 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] New York, October 12, TASS--Speaking today at the plenary meeting of the 34th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba Fidel Castro emphasized an insistent need for eradication of colonialism, racism, racial discrimination and apartheid in the African Continent, particularly in southern Africa.

The nonaligned countries at the Havana conference, he said, condemned colonial and imperialist powers which continue the aggressive policy so as to perpetuate their domination and exploitation of African peoples. On behalf of the nonaligned movement, he wrathfully condemned armed raids staged by the racists with direct connivance of imperialist states on Mozambique, Zambia, Angola and Botswana. Fidel Castro pointed to the insistent need of granting freedom and independence to the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia.

Fidel Castro pointed out that heads of state and government of nonaligned countries in the Havana declaration condemned a group of Western powers led by the United States for their direct and indirect backing of the criminal policy of South Africa and racist oppression. The Cuban leader spoke very highly of the invariable and consistent support given by nonaligned countries, socialist states, the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity, all democratic and progressive forces to the struggle of African people for national liberation.

The conference of nonaligned countries in Havana, Fidel Castro stressed, confirmed that the Israeli policy of aggression, expansion, of creating colonial settlements in occupied territories conducted with the support of the United States constitutes a serious threat to world peace and international security. He noted particularly that the nonaligned countries come out in support of the struggle of Arab peoples, including the Arab people of Palestine, against the policy of annexations and aggression.

In the opinion of the nonaligned countries, Fidel Castro said, the Palestinian problem is the crux of the Middle East conflict. A just peace in the area cannot be established until it is based on complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Israeli-occupied Arab lands and restoration of inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to return to its native hearths, the rights to self-determination and creation of an independent Palestinian state.

Fidel Castro emphasized particularly that the policy of the United States which is Israel's ally and declares for a partial settlement that is in keeping with the Zionist designs and is aimed at consolidating the results of the Israeli aggression to the detriment of vital interests of the Arab people of Palestine and all Arab peoples is the main obstacle hampering establishment of a just and all-embracing peace in the Middle East. In this connection the Cuban leader stressed that the heads of state and government of nonaligned countries unanimously condemned the separate Camp David accords and demanded immediate end of occupation of all native Arab lands.

Touching upon the problems of Southeast Asia, Fidel Castro stressed that the growing conflicts and tension in the region constitute a threat to peace that must be removed. He pointed out in the this connection that the nonaligned conference in Havana came out in support of the United Nations declaration of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, liquidation of imperialist military bases and foreign military presence in the region that constitutes a direct threat to liberation movements.

Touching upon the situation in the Latin American continent, Fidel Castro stressed that the Havana conference confirmed the right of the Cuban people to choose its political and social system and its demands for ending the occupation of a part of the territory of Cuba where the U.S. Naval Base Guantanamo is situated. Moreover, the Cuban leader said, the nonaligned movement condemned the illegal blockade which the United States government continues in order to isolate and stifle the Cuban revolution.

We highly appreciate the profound understanding and response that were evoked in the world by the recent condemnation by the conference in Havana of hostile acts, pressure and threats against Cuba by the United States. We highly appreciate the fact that the nonaligned movement assessed these acts as a glaring violation of the United Nations Charter and the principles of international law, as a threat to universal peace.

We want to assure again our brothers, the international community, that Cuba will remain loyal to the principles of international solidarity.

In conclusion, Fidel Castro touched upon the problem of creating a new economic order based on justice and liquidation of colonial exploitation. He stressed particularly that socialist countries, guided by the principles of international solidarity, render all-round support and assistance to developing countries in overcoming the grim colonial heritage, in strengthening the economic and political independence.

Return to Havana

LD150922 Moscow TASS in English 0724 GMT 15 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Havana, October 15, TASS--First Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba CC, Chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the republic, President of the nonaligned movement Fidel Castro Ruz returned in Havana from New York, where he attended the 34th Session of the U.N. General Assembly. In his speech at the session, the Cuban leader stressed the paramount significance of strengthening peace all over the world, of invigorating the process of international detente and spreading it to all parts of the world.

When in New York, Fidel Castro met with leaders of delegations of the nonaligned countries attending the session of the U.N. General Assembly as well as with the group of Puerto Rican patriots whom the U.S. administration was recently forced to release under the pressure of demands of international public.

Shortly before his departure from New York Fidel Castro gave an interview to a correspondent of the Cuban Havana-Cuba Radio station saying that the main aim of the speech at the United Nations Organization was to bring to light the serious problems born of the world economic crisis, with which mankind is faced today.

FALL OF BOKASSA VIEWED IN CONTEXT OF THIRD WORLD DEVELOPMENTS

LD111351 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 41, 5 Oct 79 pp 14-15 LD

[D. Volskiy article: "A Repetition of the Past"]

[Text] Events in the Central African "Empire", which has reverted to being a republic, have proved yet again how contradictory the contemporary international situation is. Indeed, could the inhabitants of this former French colony not have rejoiced when they learned of the "Emperor" Bokassa's ouster? The self-styled monarch, who might have been called a comic figure were it not for the blood which he caused to be shed, will long be remembered by his fellow citizens. They will also remember the barbarously luxuriant "Court" and the cruel tyranny of this African Bonaparte who is notorious most of all for his personal participation in the shooting of rebellious schoolchildren. It is logical that in the wake of Pol Pot, Somoza and the shah of Iran, in the wake of the African dictators Idi Amin and Nguema, who was sentenced to death just recently in Equatorial Guinea, Bokassa should have been ousted from the gigantic bronze throne which he had erected. The peoples of the developing countries are demonstrating increasingly convincingly that they do not intend to put up with authoritarian dictatorships, whatever these tyrannies may rely on--the support of transnational corporations, religious extremism or Maoist slogans.

So the collapse of the "Empire" fits in perfectly with the course of contemporary history. But virtually the day after, in television reports from Bangui--the country's capital--it was possible to see groups of protesters alongside women dancing with joy. The jubilation was spontaneously replaced by alarm. The alarm was provoked by the formation of a cabinet from among Bokassa's former ministers and by the introduction of French troops into the capital and subsequently into other regions of the country.

Western observers are now disputing as to who arrived first in Bangui--the French paratroopers or D. Dacko, Bokassa's relative and adviser who had already held the post of president and has now taken up this post once again to replace Bokassa. But they all agree on one thing: The operation code-named "Barracuda" was conceived and planned in advance. This is evidenced by the airlift quickly established between Bangui and N'Djamena, capital of neighboring Chad, to transfer troops and equipment, and also by the provision of French protection for cabinet sessions and of specialists from Paris as advisers to members of that cabinet.

The meaning behind the whole action is also obvious: Mindful of the recent lessons in Nicaragua and Iran, it was decided to remove the odious head of the regime before the people's movement, directed not only against Bokassa's actual regime but also against the neocolonialist orientation which he personified, had time to gather strength. One of the overthrown "emperor's" retinue cited as "a specific cause" of the events in the Central African Republic the struggle for the monopoly right to work the uranium which is extracted there. The Paris newspaper LE MATIN links these events with the situation in Africa as a whole. "From all accounts," the newspaper writes, "it is a question of guaranteeing for France a system of privileged relations on that continent, with its fabulous unexploited wealth."

The idea suggests itself of an acute flareup of rivalry among the Western powers for positions in Africa. But is that all? The facts attest that a general tendency in the policy of influential Western circles is also manifest in the present events. The trend is a new one if you agree that "what is new is really something old which is well and truly forgotten." To be more accurate, it is the "old" trend which these circles would like to consign to oblivion in order to revive it in a form purged of grim recollections.

First, it consists in attempts to mete out spheres of influence in the developing countries. Second, it lies in coordinated action in the struggle against liberation forces. Third, it is a gamble in this struggle on military methods combined, of course, with political and economic methods.

I think that it is no accident that, having scarcely assumed office as president, D. Dacko uttered the following words: "I shall maintain relations with the Republic of South Africa.... I shall establish official relations with the Republic of South Africa. I am prepared to do so right now." Dacko's statement was received in Pretoria as evidence of support not just from the Central African Republic's president alone, but also from the Western circles linked with him. Indeed, even without this, the South African racists could not fail to experience a sense of satisfaction, having seen for themselves yet again that, in the eyes of the bourgeois West, the white "custodian of order" is not all that much of an anachronism on the dark continent. [paragraph continues]

It was a symptomatic coincidence that during those very days, air raids were made by the Republic of South Africa against the People's Republic of Angola. Prime Minister P. Botha outlined yet another direction of his regime's aggressive policy by threatening that the Republic of South Africa would not stand idly by "in the event of turmoil and chaos" in Rhodesia. In turn, the Muzorewa-Smith puppet government of Rhodesia gave the order for an attack against Mozambique--the second attack since the opening of the London conference on Rhodesia.

It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that all these are links in a single chain which moreover, is by no means confined to Africa. Just now efforts are being made, for example, to revive the plan for a "security pact" in the Persian Gulf, which seemed to have been buried for good along with the shah's regime. This plan has now not simply been dragged out from the dust of the archives. It has been renovated and given the name "Hormuz Strait Defense Project." But the name is not the main point. The main point is that, while formerly it was merely a question of "local" forces headed by the shah's army, direct U.S., British and FRG participation in this pact is now envisaged (according to reports from Kuwaiti newspapers, for instance).

Let us also recall the preparation for the formation of a U.S. "quick reaction" corps of 110,000 men; it is now reportedly the intention to use these units in the event of "crisis situations" not just in the Persian Gulf zone but also in other places--Latin America, for instance. Do not the discourses of certain British conservatives about the resumption, in some form, of Britain's "imperial role" attest to the same trend?

This is the response of the West's ruling circles to the revolutions in Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Nicaragua and other developing countries. This is their response to the refusal of young states to reconcile themselves to a subordinate position in capitalism's economic system. This is their response to the growth of anti-imperialist sentiments so vividly manifested during the nonalined countries' Havana conference.... Let us not moralize, as the moral here is clear. Let us merely note that attempts to repeat the past attest least of all to confidence in the future and in the correctness of their own approach on the part of those who are making these attempts. Regardless of how and by whom "Emperor" Bokassa was overthrown, his fall and the events which followed have shown graphically that there are few people left in the former colonial world on which the capitalist world can rely.

COMMENTARY ON AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S 'OPEN LETTER'

LD121738 Moscow TASS in English 1626 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 12, TASS--TASS political news analyst Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

The Amnesty International has released "an open letter" which, for an umpteenth time, touches on the issue of "human rights" in the Soviet Union. When one embarks on reading this long letter, the following question comes to mind: What has, in this case, been the pretext or underlying cause for its appearance? When one comes to the end of the letter, the answer comes by itself.

The letter appeared because the Moscow Olympiad-80 is drawing near.

The authors of "the letter" inform of their intention to enter into contacts with the International Olympic Committee and the national olympic committees of different countries to use the Moscow games for "informing" international public. Also announced is the intention to re-edit, in April 1980, "The Revised and Updated Report on the Status of Human Rights in the USSR" produced five years ago.

Thus, we are faced with a clear attempt to denigrate the Soviet Union on the eve of the Olympic games by a resort to out and out misinformation. It is also evident why it was the Olympic games of next year that have been selected as the object for reviving the loud slanderous campaign which has, so many times already, backfired against its organizers. and instigators. During the Olympiad-80, Moscow and other Soviet cities will host hundreds of thousands of Western tourists, many of whom will be able, for the first time in their lives, to see for themselves, on the spot, the reality of the accomplishments of developed socialism. Besides, millions of Western citizens will, for the first time, familiarize themselves with Soviet reality through watching Olympic games on TV screens.

The organizers of the new wave of anti-Soviet speculative insinuations on the well-known topic are trying to foist in advance on the Western public a prejudiced and biased attitude to anything that is Soviet, already now attempting to sow in the minds of future guests of the Moscow Olympic games the seeds of unfriendliness, mistrust, and suspicion with regard to the Soviet Union.

Among the people who consider themselves to be members of Amnesty International there are probably people that who genuinely believe they are serving a just cause. It is exactly in order to attract such "partishioners" that Amnesty International, alongside of its active anti-Soviet activity, from time to time makes statements exposing the dictator Pinochet and his ilk. However, the chief and the dominant feature of the organization is to invent different moves to try to discredit socialism and its real achievements, including real safeguards and guarantees for the rights and freedoms of people. As to the hypocritical propagandist campaign, pharisaically called "the struggle for human rights", it in effect represents nothing more than a ramified ideological diversion against the world socialist system and, in the first place, against the Soviet Union. And the "open letter" released by the Amensty International is an integral element of such diversion.

INTERNATIONAL LAWYERS MEETING OPENS IN BULGARIA

LD142242 Moscow TASS in English 1312 GMT 14 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Sofia, October 14, TASS--A meeting of the Secretariat of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers opened today in Varna.

The participants in the meeting heard a report on the activity of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers over the period under review. They familiarized themselves with a report on the participation of representatives of the association in the work of the tribunal that condemned the bloody clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary. The meeting discussed the Middle East situation and also the activity of progressive journalists of the world who condemn the disgraceful Camp David agreements.

ZORIN SCORES MEDIA FOR DISTRACTING ATTENTION FROM BREZHNEV SPEECH

LD140103 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary in "Moscow Viewpoint" program]

[Text] In the past week the media around the world focused on Leonid Brezhnev's statement in Berlin about the Soviet Union's serious and constructive peace proposals. A review of the American press and statements by various politicians make one wonder if they didn't understand the Soviet Union's basic position in Berlin or, worse yet, they are just pretending not to understand. What is more, the media and these politicians are trying to frighten American public opinion.

I would like to emphasize that this is just my personal impression. But since the reaction in the United States strikes me this way, I would like to make a few remarks about the situation. The American mass media did not fail to report the speech made by Leonid Brezhnev at the 30th anniversary celebrations of the German Democratic Republic. The press, radio and television gave the event wide coverage. But this kind of coverage made it hard to see the forest for the trees. The media have reported on one or another of the issues brought out in this important speech, have discussed specific problems and therefore appeared to be analyzing the new and important Soviet initiatives. But their verbosity craftily avoids the main point.

The main point is that the Soviet Union's responsible and prestigious leader, addressing the entire world, emphasized that the Soviet Union is not seeking military superiority over anyone. He said that this country's aims have never been to threaten any country or group of nations. The strategic doctrine of this country, he said, is totally one of defense.

To be sure, United States presidents have also said they are for peace, but I can't recall one case in the entire postwar period when a president of the United States clearly stated that the United States has never aimed, does not aim and will never strive for military superiority over any other country. White House documents of the past 35 years do not contain any statement of this kind. The question arises: Can the President of the United States today say for all to hear that the American strategic doctrine is purely for defense, as Leonid Brezhnev maintained last Saturday about Soviet strategic policy? Objectively, the answer is no. Not one responsible leader in Washington can make such a statement to the world, and if someone in Washington dared to say that the United States has a strategic policy that is purely for defense purposes the lie would be immediately exposed by numerous Pentagon documents and statements by Pentagon officials over the years, as well as by the facts of American foreign policy.

The mass media in the United States and certain politicians with cold war psychology have tried to distract attention from the main point: That is, the Soviet Union not only repeated at the highest level its adherence to the relaxation of international tension but proposed concrete steps towards this aim. The new proposals proceed from the policy, as stated by Leonid Brezhnev, that a desire for peace is the foundation and backbone of Soviet foreign policy. Instead of examining these important proposals, useless discussions are encouraged over minor issues. At the same time some people in the United States are using ridiculous arguments such as the recent claim that the Soviet Union has combat troops in Cuba.

They insist that a training center in Cuba with two or three thousand Soviet advisers without any offensive weapons threatens United States security and therefore worries the American public, while plans to deploy Pershing-2 missiles with nuclear warheads in Europe shouldn't be a threat to the Soviet Union or shouldn't worry the Soviet people.

I'd call this strange logic if it weren't so obvious that the case was contrived. Claims about the Soviet threat in Europe provide an excuse for deploying American nuclear weapons in that part of the world, but the official statements of the Soviet Union's leadership and recent foreign policy proposals once again show how unfounded this ill-intentioned myth is. I am convinced that Washington's politicians aren't confused on this issue and realize how groundless the campaign is about an alleged Soviet threat. Plans to deploy American missiles in Western Europe in close proximity to the Soviet Union were not devised to combat an alleged Soviet threat but to change the balance of strength, giving superiority to the United States.

That is why I've stressed Leonid Brezhnev's statement that the Soviet Union does not seek military superiority over any country and why I can say with no reservations that there isn't one Washington official who could make such a statement. Any attempt, however, to gain superiority over the Soviet Union with weapons stipulated in SALT II or by getting around SALT II by siting medium-range missiles near the borders of the USSR are doomed to failure. Leonid Brezhnev's speech in Berlin has presented leaders in the West with a dilemma: Either they stop trying to change the current strategic balance of strength or take responsibility for a new and dangerous arms buildup.

GROMYKO GIVES LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF DEPARTING TOON

LD121442 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko today gave a luncheon in honor of Toon, U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union, in connection with the completion of his mission and his departure from Moscow.

EXPANSION OF U.S. ARMS EXPORTS INCREASES TENSION

LD121144 Moscow TASS in English 1117 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

["Military Aid--An Instrument or U.S. Policy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 12, TASS--TASS commentator Nikolay Novikov writes:

Despite the U.S. intention to cut arms trade, as declared by President J. Carter, such trade is being conducted on an increasingly large scale. Specialists put U.S. arms exports this year at 15,000 million dollars, which is almost twice the figure declared by the American administration.

While remaining the world's biggest arms exporter the United States sends them to quite definite countries, chiefly the ones on which the United States relies for safeguarding its strategic and military and political interests in these or other areas of the world--Israel and Egypt, the South Korean, Taiwan, Central- and South-American dictatorial regimes which pursue a policy that suits Washington's interests.

A considerable portion of American military assistance last year went to Israel, the main support of the United States in its policy in the Middle East. According to the Washington POST, U.S. direct military aid and other arms supplies to Israel exceeded 2,000 million dollars in 1978. In July last, President Carter signed a programme for emergency military and economic aid to Israel and Egypt as "payment" for the Camp David deal. 3,000 million dollars out of a total of 4,800 million are designated for Tel Aviv's military needs and the rest for giving military and economic support to As-Sadat's regime. It is these two countries that are assigned the role of a Middle Eastern gendarme for the USA after the fall of the shah's regime in Iran.

The example of the Middle East clearly shows one more aspect of American military aid as an instrument of pressure on the countries which pursue a foreign policy course independent of the USA. By manipulating military aid Washington seeks to draw in separate "peace talks", Camp David style, a number of other countries of the region, for example, Saudi Arabia which together with an overwhelming majority of Arab countries firmly refuses to support Cairo's treacherous deal with the Israeli expansionists. Hoping to persuade Riyadh, which enjoys great influence in the Arab world, to change its position, the United States brought up its exports of arms and military services to Saudi Arabia to a record level of 5,100 million dollars last year.

By saturating the Middle East with arms for the sake of its military and strategic arms and economic interests the United States actually helps increase tension in the region, one of the world's "flash points" wherefrom comes a serious threat to peace.

CARIBBEAN 'FIRE BRIGADE' PLAN SEEN AS ATTEMPT TO CREATE TENSION

LD121503 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[V. Lapskiy commentary: "Dangerous Plans" carried under "On International Themes" rubric]

[Text] Reports have been appearing recently in the U.S. and Latin American press to the effect that U.S. diplomats accredited in Latin American countries have been intensively putting out feelers about creating "regional armed forces" in the Caribbean. The United States intends to submit this idea for discussion by the OAS General Assembly which will meet next month in La Paz, the capital of Bolivia.

It should be noted that the idea of creating a "regional army" is not new. Last summer, at the height of the people's action in Nicaragua, Washington made an attempt to knock together under the Pentagon's effective command a supranational invasion army in order to keep its stooge Somoza in power. However, at an extraordinary OAS session in Washington a majority of the 26 member countries of this organization rejected the U.S. plan. Latin America realized very well that the United States would have liked to use the OAS flag as camouflage for its own aggression in Nicaragua.

Washington's present psychological conditioning of its partners in the OAS began simultaneously with the anti-Cuban campaign that it unleashed. The U.S. big press invariably links the idea that it is necesary to create a "fire brigade" in the Caribbean basin with the mendacious allegations about the supposedly heightened "Cuban threat." This allegation was repudiated by the Cuban leaders. However, U.S. propaganda is strubbornly continuing to harp on this threat. [paragraph continues]

According to it, the "fire brigade" proposed by Washington is allegedly required to guarantee the security of the region's countries.

It is observed in Latin America that the idea of creating these forces has been advanced once again by the United States at the precise moment when a real threat of overthrow is handing over its stooges in Central America. Reports are coming in from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras about a powerful upsurge of popular action against military dictatorships. Many political observers are predicting that the reactionary regimes in those countries could suffer the same fate as Somoza. And they are voicing the opinion that Washington needs the "fire brigade" in order to exert psychological pressure or to carry out direct intervention in those countries of the Caribbean basin where the national liberation struggle is growing. They still remember the U.S. Army's intervention in the insurgent Dominican Republic where U.S. invasion troops were retrospectively renamed "inter-American forces."

Great wariness is evoked in Latin America by the U.S. plans and measures for intensifying the U.S. military presence in the Caribbean. People realize that in the final analysis it is a question of the violation of sovereignty and U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Latin American states. The aim of strengthening the U.S. military presence in the Caribbean, the Mexican newspaper EL DIA writes, is to prepare a new aggression against Cuba, intimidate the peoples of this region and create yet another seat of military and political tension.

The Latin American press is voicing the opinion that it will be difficult for the United States to push through at the OAS General Assembly the idea of creating multinational military forces. Schooled in the bitter experience of "cooperation" with Washington, the peoples of Latin America are rejecting the imperialist attempts to limit their sovereignty on any pretext whatever.

MONDALE, BRZEZINSKI SPEECHES AT ALLIANCE SESSION SCORED

LD130706 Moscow TASS in English 0654 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 13, TASS--TASS political news analyst Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

The annual session of the Association of the North Atlantic Alliance in Washington was addressed by Walter Mondale, U.S. vice president, Zbigniew Brzezinski, adviser to the U.S. President on national security affairs, Joseph Luns, NATO secretary-general, and other figures. They all in this or that way touched upon the theses contained in the Berlin speech delivered by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. At the same time one gathers the impression that despite the official assurances by the U.S. State Department and the NATO headquarters that the Soviet leader's major speech is being most attentively studied, the above mentioned figures familiarized themselves with the speech hastily.

Speakers at the Atlantic session in Washington went on talking about a certain "build-up of Soviet nuclear forces in Europe," and that the USSR, don't you [know], is doing everything to "divert" the Western bloc from in-depth modernisation of conventional and nuclear forces of NATO in the European Continent.

A question arises in this connection: Is it not mentioned in all clarity in the aforesaid speech made by the leader of the CPSU and the Soviet state that in the past ten years in the territory of the European part of the Soviet Union the number of medium range carriers of nuclear arms has not increased by a single missile, by a single plane? On the contrary, the number of launchers of medium-range missiles and also the yield of the nuclear charges of these missiles have even been somewhat decreased. Is it a question of a "build-up?"

The thesis as to the USSR's attempt "to lure NATO away" was also there in the speech at the session of the Atlantic treaty association by Z.B. Brzezinski. The assistant to the U.S. President even spoke of a certain "political intimidation," though it is well known that it is exactly Washington that is now stepping up its campaign to intimidate and even blackmail its allies. Brzezinski in the most categorical form urged NATO member countries to agree to the deployment of U.S. new upgraded nuclear-missile systems in their territories.

Advocating the launching of a new round of the race of nuclear-missile armaments in the European Continent, Washington speakers deliberately pass over in silence the fact that the realisation of such a design will signify a serious disruption of the general strategic balance both in Europe and in the world. This attempt at breaking the established balance of forces and at ensuring a military superiority for the bloc of NATO would inevitably aggravate the situation in Europe and would in many respects vitiate the international atmosphere in general.

Calling for the deployment of the upgraded Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in the territories of the FRG and its West European neighbours, the organisers of this undertaking dangerous to the cause of peace and security know that the new weapons with the "Made in USA" marking will be capable of hitting targets in the USSR's territory right up to the Urals. They do not mention it by a single word that the medium-range missiles which the Soviet Union has cannot reach the USA.

In an attempt to impress upon the republic of their countries the obviously untenable arguments in favour of deployment of U.S. nuclear-missile weapons, Atlantic strategists in every way conceal the real perspective from it: In case of deployment of Pershing-2 missiles in Europe, socialist countries would not of course watch indifferently the NATO militarists' efforts, and would really have to take necessary additional steps to strengthen their security. Condemning the stand of official West, the Italian L'UNITA writes: To say that we at first shall arm ourselves and then we shall discuss the question of disarmament means, at least, a long postponement of a solution to the problems of disarmament. In the meantime the arms race may assume huge proportions and bring about an uncontrollable situation, the newspaper stresses.

The serious concern of the population of Western Europe in connection with the NATO plans is quite understandable: European peoples not at all intend to become a kind of nuclear hostages of the USA. They firmly come out against the Atlantists' intention to seriously aggravate the situation in the continent. This is why so active and massive becomes the support in Europe for the USSR's new important proposals the aim of which is to give a powerful impulse to both European and world detente.

Intimidation of Atlantic Alliance Group

LD132238 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1220 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Washington, October 13, TASS--The regular annual session of the Atlantic Alliance Association--a nongovernmental organization comprising representatives of NATO member countries--has taken place in the U.S. capital and has been characterized by overt pressure from Washington on its partners in the military bloc. In the final resolution participants in the session expressed support for a 3 percent increase in the annual defense budgets of the NATO countries. They also endorsed plans for extensive modernization of NATO armed forces and for the deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles on the territory of a number of Western European countries.

U.S. officials speaking at the session again intimidated the audience with the nonexistent "Soviet threat" and under this pretext called on NATO countries to agree to the deployment on their territory of U.S. cruise missiles and the Pershing-2 missile.

The session was also addressed by J. Luns, NATO secretary general, and B. Rogers, new supreme allied commander in Europe. Their statements demonstrated that the NATO top brass applaud Washington's dangerous designs and conduct affairs not toward a reduction of forces and armaments in Europe but toward further buildups under the guise of "rearmament" [dovooruzheniye] and "modernization."

TASS REPORTS ON CARTER'S RADIO BROADCAST

LD141813 Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 14 Oct 79 LD

[Excerpts] Washington, October 14, TASS--United States President Jimmy Carter was asked a number of questions concerning the SALT II treaty in the "Ask the President" National Public Radio Broadcast. Answering them the president said, in particular: If the SALT II treaty is rejected this would be a severe blow to our country, to our nation's security and to the prospect of world peace. Rejection of the treaty would end really a 3-year process toward controlling nuclear weapons throughout the world, particularly in our country and in the Soviet Union. It would be very difficult to recommence it, and if we did start another two or three or seven-year negotiation, the chances are very high that the final product would be almost identical to what we have negotiated this time.

The President was asked why military spending which is one of the main causes of inflation unceasingly grows in the USA. The person who asked this question recalled that Jimmy Carter during the election campaign of 1976 promised to cut military budget by 5-7 per cent. Instead, military spending has increased up to 40,000 million dollars. He also asked whether there is a need for an MX missile and whether it is possible to stop inflation by cutting military spending.

The President tried to justify the growth of military expenditure by traditional allusions to 'interests of national security' and necessity to enhance the U.S. military might for America not to become weak. In so doing he maintained that military expenditure is a "good investment."

ARTICLE ASSAILS EXPELLED CANADIAN FOR DEFENDING SHCHARANSKIY

LD111537 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA No 41, 5 Oct 79 pp 26-27 LD

[N. Nikolayev article: "Congress in the Doorway"]

[Text] They have already become familiar, these messengers from across the ocean. Their outward appearance and clothes are very varied, but their eyes are the same--tenacious and searching. Travelers of this sort come on the most varied business and sometimes without any business, but their aim is the same: to try to overthrow Soviet power. When, in observance of all norms of interstate relations, it is pointed out to them that they have not been engaging in their business, fiery denials and refutations ensue.

In August (Irvin Kotler), a professor from Canada, delighted Moscow with his presence. He came out of lofty scientific motives, possessed by a thirst for knowledge: to gain wisdom and show himself at the International Congress of Political Scientists. True, (Kotler's) voice was not heard in the halls where the most learned symposiums were held. The professor's eloquence was revealed elsewhere.

Mr (Kotler's) personal congress began to function briskly in Moscow. Of course, not in the auditoriums and halls of Moscow University where the political scientists were in session, but in premise more suited to the cause for which the guest was making the trip--in the dirty burrows of renegades and in dark doorways. It was here that the true aim of the professor's trip was highlighted: **founding**--nothing less--a new "alliance of the sword and plow" in accordance with a standard design.

In the doorways (Kotler) presented the select audience with stunning developments. It followed quite obviously from this that light comes to us--counter to the earth's movement around the sun--from the West or to be more precise from America the blessed, while there is pitch darkness in our country. He called his select audience, a bedraggled handful of "fighters for rights," to the light which will shine only if they succeed in liberating the superstar Shcharanskiy. "It is not Anatoliy Shcharanskiy but the Soviet Union which should be tried," the professor read out his catechism.

And he slipped across for familiarization extracts from the official "Congressional Record," the stenographic report of Congress, A letter from eight senators to "Dear Anatoliy." They recalled the bright day of 29 June 1975 when these senators met with 18 dissidents (the list of whom began with Shcharanskiy) and had a heart-to-heart talk. Senator Humphrey: "We senators need practical proposals...." Senator Javits: "We have come as senators and as friends of human rights from the freest country in the world to hear from you what we must do for the progress of human rights here."

The dissidents bowed, gave thanks, and wailed: "We put our destiny in your reliable hands.... For our part we will contribute to this struggle.

The talkative professor could have developed the theme of the "freest country." If he had familiarized his select audience with what, for instance, was written by America's PLAYBOY magazine in its July issue, published on the eve of the professor's departure for Moscow. In an article in the magazine with the appropriate title "Good News for Idiots" the journalist D. Black wrote: "Well, even though we are undoubtedly a free country, perhaps one of the freest, we do have the CIA (which last year opened 28 million letters and carried out a secret program in an attempt to modify people's behavior by treating them with drugs and whose computer has 300,000 names in it), the National Security Council, the Internal Revenue Service (which keeps files on 465,000 citizens), the FBI (which in 25 years has carried out 10,665 bugging operations and organized hundreds of raids into private houses and institutions) and local organs for fighting the Reds run into dozens. [paragraph continues]

We have tried to assassinate foreign leaders, we have toppled governments, including possibly our own...."

But let us return to the CIA. "Human rights fighter" Shcharanskiy once decided that he would best fulfill this mission of his in the ranks of the CIA. Having hired himself out to work there, Shcharanskiy made his contribution, that same "contribution to this struggle" promised by the dissidents, for which, as is well known, he was tried and convicted and is now serving a sentence passed by the Soviet court. No, Shcharanskiy is as pure as an angel, (Kotler) asserts with the most innocent expression. Proof? Certainly! Here it is!

It was none other than the U.S. President who stated on 13 June 1977 that he had asked for information from the CIA. The worthy department replied: Shcharanskiy did not serve with us. Therefore, the professor summed up, he is innocent, for "not a single U.S. President would ever consciously harm the prestige and position of the presidency, not to mention the honor of the United States, if the facts attested otherwise or the matter was unclear. The President's statement carries to one conclusion--Shcharanskiy is innocent."

That's really going too far! [ekm kuda khvatili] In 1948--the year of Shcharanskiy's birth--the National Security Council adopted Directive 10/2: "Subversive activity is planned and conducted in such a way that outwardly its organizer--the U.S. Government--passes unnoticed and in the event of any revelations the U.S. Government can plausibly deny any responsibility for it." D. Eisenhower was acting in accordance with the National Security Council's Directive 10/2 when he announced, after the U-2 spy-plane had been shot down near Sverdlovsk, that the pilot had "lost his way somewhere over Turkey." L. Johnson so frequently refuted what could not be refuted, for instance the story of Congress' "Tonkin Gulf Resolution," that it was during his term as president that the "crisis of confidence" in the White House arose--a crisis which has not been successfully overcome to this day. There is no need even to mention R. Nixon: Watergate speaks for itself....

From what had been said (Kotler) drew a far from humorous conclusion: The Soviet legal organs are "acting counter to legality." Therefore all Soviet people must be guided by the legality defined for them and on their behalf in "the freest country." The point is absolutely clear: Overthrow Soviet power and introduce American ways.

But the eloquent speaker had to be interrupted at this stage. He was put on the very first aircraft and expelled from the Soviet Union.

NO AGENDA SET FOR NEXT ROUND OF SINO-SOVIET TALKS

LD122245 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1927 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 12 Oct (TANJUG)--Soviet-Chinese negotiations on the normalization of mutual relations and the development of economic, scientific, technological, cultural and other cooperation, are to open formally in Moscow next week, the decision was reached today by the heads of the two delegations: Deputy Foreign Ministers Leonid Ilichev and Wang Youping. They did not, however, determine the exact date on which the negotiations will open.

The negotiations will open without a set agenda, as the two deputy foreign ministers did not succeed in agreeing on it. So far, the delegations have agreed only on the location of these negotiations and the negotiations on border questions. Both will be held Moscow and Beijing alternately. On the basis of this small compromise reached by the heads of delegations in preparatory talks, observers here believe that the agenda will be set in spite of the great differences in approach to questions which are to be discussed.

It has been learned there that the delegations will discuss also those questions basically formulated in the Soviet-Chinese diplomatic correspondence during the first half of the year. No details have been revealed, but it is expected that only questions on which agreement will be reached, or has already been reached in the preliminary talks, will be dealt with.

OBJECTIVES OF HUA GUOFENG'S TOUR QUESTIONED

LD132218 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] According to an AFP report from Beijing, Hua Guofeng, chairman of the CCP Central Committee and premier of the PRC State Council, is leaving for a visit to Western Europe tomorrow. He will visit France, the FRG, Britain and Italy. The trip of the Beijing leader, our commentator notes, is starting at a time when Western leaders will have to reply to the new Soviet proposals aimed at a further development of the policy of detente, at strengthening peace in Europe and the entire world. The West European public is aware of this extremely important event and is expressing quite understandable concern in connection with the forthcoming visit of Hua Guofeng, since Beijing's overtly hostile attitude with regard to problems of detente, disarmament and preservation of peace is well known.

Hua Guofeng, according to his own statements, intends to discuss with statesmen of the four Western countries international issues of mutual interest as well as economic matters. This was announced by the Chinese leader at a press conference in Beijing a week before the beginning of his tour, which will take him to Paris, Bonn, London and Rome. Speaking to a small circle of journalists from four Western countries, he had to consider, judging by appearances, that Beijing's hostility toward international detente is not, to put it mildly, popular.

Hua Guofeng himself stated, for example, that a strong and united Western Europe was of great importance for the preservation of peace and security in Europe and the entire world. There is no need to give long explanations as to what is concealed behind these words. The Beijing leaders themselves provided all the necessary explanations in this regard by calling on Western European countries to increase their armaments and to build up NATO's military might since, as they put it, a threat from the East is hanging over Western Europe.

It is very significant that the Beijing leader, speaking on the 30th anniversary of the GDR did not utter a word on this significant jubilee of the first state of workers and peasants on German soil. However, he did not fail to mention the reunification of Germany which in Beijing means the absorption of the GDR into the FRG.

Finally, Hua Guofeng could not resist the temptation to again mention the intrigues of hegemonists which allegedly make detente unattainable. All this gives some indication of the kind of political baggage the Beijing leader is taking to Western Europe.

BEIJING STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST ARMY TAKE OVER

LD101424 Moscow TASS in English 1344 GMT 10 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Beijing, October 10, TASS--Several thousand students held a demonstration today in Beijing's central streets and Tienanmen Square against the seizure by the army units of the campus and premises of the Chinese People's University, one of the leading higher educational establishments of the Chinese capital. The demonstrators carried streamers saying that the command of one of the privileged arms of the service--"the Second Artillery" (rocket units), continues to hold the university campus in violation of all the laws. It is written, in particular, on the streamers: "Down With Military Style", "University Hostel Is Not Barracks", "Bring Back Our Hostels and Canteens".

Marching on the square the students chanted these slogans. The demonstration was held in an organized order--the students carried university flags, used loudspeakers. According to their explanations the administration of the university, closed during the "Cultural Revolution" and restored last year, has been trying unsuccessfully for almost one year to achieve the return of the university campus and building.

A new academic year started in the Chinese capital, however, students of the people's university still live in overcrowded hostels of various higher educational establishments and have no permanent place for studies.

Improvement of Conditions Demanded

OW130608 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 12 Oct 79 OW

[Summary] According to big-character wall posters put up on the campus of Beijing University, students have held strikes to demand the improvement of educational and living conditions. They have also staged the demonstrations to demand the return of unlawfully occupied buildings and classrooms in Beijing.

Commenting on the Beijing students' demonstrations, this station's observer Dimov points out that it is another sign of the serious wounds inflicted on China's system of higher education by Mao Zedong's great Cultural Revolution. At the same time, this student unrest is a severe (?punishment) for the present Chinese leadership. They have expressed concern for higher education in words, but have disregarded its [words indistinct], in fact. As everyone knows, the various (?experiments) of Mao Zedong in the field of education ended with serious and detrimental results in the work of training technical personnel. The demonstrations by Beijing University students eloquently show the difficulties being encountered in higher education in China. The funds appropriated by the state are far from sufficient to cover the expenditures of higher education, and this is why higher education has been stagnant.

Facts have proved that China's educational system is in a critical situation. In light of the serious discontent being expressed by the Beijing University students, it goes without saying that similar situations exist at schools of higher learning in other localities too.

U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN TO VISIT TOKYO

LD121636 Moscow TASS in English 1457 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, October 12, TASS--U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown is to come for a two-day visit to Japan on October 19, the Japanese Foreign Ministry announced today. He will have meetings with Prime Minister M. Ohira, Foreign Minister S. Sonoda and head of the Japan Defence Agency G. Yamashita, and will inspect the Japanese "self-defence forces".

The voyage of the Pentagon's chief to the Japanese isles will be yet another step towards consolidation of the Japanese-American militarist alliance.

'NEW AND FRUITFUL IMPETUS' GIVEN TO SOVIET-JAPANESE TRADE

LD150811 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 41 5 Oct 79 p 8-9 LD

[L. Mlechin article: "New Projects Ahead", first paragraph is an editorial introduction]

[Text] The eighth joint conference of the Japanese-Soviet and Soviet-Japanese committees for economic cooperation was held in Moscow 24-27 September. Progress in the fulfillment of current general agreements on carrying out joint projects was examined. The possibility of further developing business ties was discussed. The Japanese delegation, which included many prominent businessmen, was headed by Shigeo Nagano, president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and chairman of the Japanese-Soviet committee for economic cooperation. The visitors were received by A.N. Kosygin.

Mr. Hirochi Anzai is already talking about visiting Moscow next year. The details of a new tripartite (Soviet-Japanese-U.S.) agreement on Yakutia gas are to be discussed. Despite his advanced age, H. Anzai, president of Tokyo GAW, which is the world's largest gas company, has been head of the gas subcommittee of the Japanese-Soviet committee for economic cooperation for the past 8 years.

"I believed in this project right from the start, and I was right. Natural gas reserves of some 825 billion cubic meters have been discovered. We are now consulting on the preparation of a new agreement. We will be discussing the extraction and shipping of gas to the United States and Japan, the provision of ancillary field installations, the construction of a plant for liquefying the gas and the laying of a gas pipeline."

Mr Anzai was not the only person pleased with the Moscow talks. In his concluding remarks S. Nagano also spoke of the success of the Moscow conference.

Three new projects in West Siberia have aroused great interest in the Japanese business world and will be the subject of particular discussion in the very near future: Barter-based cooperation in the development of the "Molodezhnoye" asbestos deposit; the construction of metallurgical and mining and enriching combines; and the construction of a copper-smelting plant to serve the Udokan deposit.

Japanese businessmen's conviction of the need for cooperation with the Soviet Union stems from years of experience. Trade between our countries rests on the foundation of what is now the third 5-year agreement on trade and payments. According to estimates, reciprocal trade will exceed $4 billion this year. The general agreements between Japanese firms and Soviet foreign trade organizations concluded in the sixties and seventies are an important factor in the growth of trade. [paragraph continues]

The successes are obvious: The first stage of construction at the port of Vostochniy, on the Bukhta Vrangelya [Vrangel Bay], has been completed; shipments of industrial wood-chip and commercial timber are being made; and this year Japan will take delivery of the first million tons of coking coal in accordance with an agreement under which the Soviet Union will supply 104 million tons of coal over 20 years.

"The development of Soviet-Japanese trade and business cooperation is not only in both countries' economic interests but also serves as a reliable foundation for good-neighborly relations between our peoples and for strengthening peace in the Far East and throughout the world," USSR Minister of Foreign Trade N.S. Patolichev said during a meeting with the Japanese delegation. "What we have achieved is only the beginning, the first steps. If they are really interested in the stable and vast Soviet market and in getting big Soviet orders and reliable supplies of Soviet goods of interest to them, Japanese business circles must operate on terms no less favorable than those enjoyed by firms in many industrially advanced countries and must orient themselves on firm, long term ties underpinned by agreements at both business and government level."

Judging from numerous conversations which I have had, the Japanese representatives share that view. "Business circles are in favor of cooperation," I was told by S. Nagano. "I am convinced that economic ties will expand. Our conference gave those ties new and fruitful impetus."

JAPAN CP STATEMENT ON PARTY'S ELECTION 'SUCCESS' REPORTED

LD121235 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Vdovin dispatch: "Communists' Success"]

[Text] Tokyo, 9 October--The Japan Communist Party [JCP] Central Committee Presidium permanent bureau published a statement today on the results of the parliamentary general elections. It says that the success of the Japanese communists, who have more than doubled their representation in the lower chamber of the country's supreme legislative organ, attests to the broad support for the policy of the party which resolutely comes out in defense of the people's interests, for democracy, peace and neutrality and against the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's antipopular course. While assessing highly the JCP's results at the elections, the permanent bureau points to the great significance of this event from the viewpoint of determining Japan's political course for the eighties.

Responding to the voters' support, the statement says, our party will make every effort to fulfill its promises and will struggle still more resolutely for changes in Japan's policy and for the creation of a united front of progressive forces and a democratic government.

DPRK ENVOY MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF TIES WITH USSR

SK150700 Moscow in Korean to Korea 0930 GMT 12 Oct 79 SK

[Text] Comrade Kim Chae-pong, the DPRK ambassador to the USSR, arranged a small banquet in Moscow on 11 October, marking the 31st anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the DPRK. Invited to the banquet were high-ranking officials of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, leaders of the government, the party and social groups.

The banquet progressed in a cordial, friendly atmosphere.

DPRK, USSR SIGN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION ACCORD

SK140134 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 7 Oct 79 SK

[Unattributed commentary: "Cooperation Accord Between the USSR and DPRK Academies of Sciences for 1980-81"]

[Text] The signed accord anticipates a wide range of projects to further develop the ties between the academies of sciences of our two countries. This accord anticipates the promotion of scientific research projects, mutual visits by the scientists for exchange of important research materials and participation in experiments and joint projects.

The Soviet and Korean scientists will have especially close ties in the fields of mining, [word indistinct], botany and metallurgy.

The commentator of our broadcasting station continues as follows:

The effective contacts between the scientists of the USSR and Korea have been active in recent years. The direct meetings between the Soviet and Korean colleagues are of great help.

Not long ago, a delegation of the DPRK Academy of Sciences led by Sin Mun-kyu, who is vice president of the DPRK Academy of Sciences, visited our country. The Korean scholars attended a meeting of representatives of the academies of sciences of socialist countries to discuss the further development of cooperation between the socialist countries. The delegation of Korean scientists visited a series of the scientific research institutes and had meetings with their Soviet colleagues in the capital of the USSR.

Not long ago, a USSR Academy of Sciences delegation, led by (Alda Mocheyet), who is a famous Soviet astrophysicist, visited the DPRK. The Soviet scientists received the warmest of hospitality in fraternal Korea. They inspected the Pyongyang astronomical observatory and met with Korean astronomers and shared with them the experience and knowledge they had obtained in this field of science. A large audience attended the lecture given by Professor (Mocheyet), who specializes in USSR aerospace engineering.

Many facts such as this can be presented as model cases.

It must be pointed out that the cooperation between the scientists of the USSR and the DPRK has been helpful in successfully solving the tasks of the national economies of our two countries.

The Soviet scholars rejoice over the fact that their achievements have been (?reflected) in various fields of the People's Korea including the metal industry, chemical industry, machine production industry and railway transportation.

The Soviet scholars highly praised the Korean colleagues' achievements in such fields as synthetic fibre production, freshwater fish farming industry and cultivation of the medicinal plants.

Carrying out the scientific cooperation accord for 1980 and 1981 between the academies of sciences of the USSR and the DPRK, which was signed in Moscow, will no doubt contribute to strengthening the overall relations between the peoples of the USSR and the DPRK.

AFGHAN COMMISSION CONTINUES WORK ON NEW CONSTITUTION

LD131408 Moscow TASS in English 1348 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, October 13, TASS--The commission for drafting a new constitution of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan continues its work. The newspaper Kabul TIMES reports that special subcommissions on main directions of the work were set up at the commission's latest meeting. Among them are subcommissions on elaboration of Afghan society's political system, social policy of the state, and foreign policy. The Afghan news agency BAKHTAR circulated a statement which points out that the commission for the drafting of a constitution, with a view to ensuring population's practical participation in drafting the country's fundamental law, welcomes citizens' proposals and observations. Workers, peasants, progressive intelligentsia, national bourgeoisie, and members of other sections of society are invited to express their wishes concerning a draft new constitution.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS IMPORTANCE OF AFGHAN CONSTITUTION

LD132325 Moscow in Pashto to Afghanistan 1430 GMT 10 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Our commentator, Igor Savchenko, writes on the start of the work of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's commission for drafting the constitution:

This is an important event in the life of Afghanistan. This event shows that the Khalqi order is well established in Afghanistan and that the successes of the Sawr revolution throughout the country and the handing over of the country's future to the workers is to be written in the constitution. The Sawr revolution should not simply record its already achieved successes but prepare the way for the real aims the revolution has underlined. And this goal is the building of a truly just society in Afghanistan that will lack the exploitation of man by man. As Hafizollah Amin, the general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and prime minister, said in the first meeting of the commission for drafting the constitution, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's constitution will express the interest of the toiling masses. The constitution will safeguard the rights of and freedom of each individual, regardless of his origin, nationality or religion.

Hafizollah Amin said that in Afghanistan the essence of the future society is the dictatorship of the proletariat. This will establish equality between the working class, farmers, progressive intellectuals and all the people and nationalities of the country. Hafizollah Amin expressed great respect for the religion of Islam and stressed the point that all the affairs of the country are in the hands of the toiling Muslims. In this way, for the first time in the history of Afghanistan, a truly Khalqi constitution is being formulated under a Khalqi government that truly realizes the meaning of people's government and fully takes into consideration the interests and wishes of the toilers. The internal policy of the Khalqi government is in harmony with its foreign policy.

The basic principles of its foreign policy will probably be spelled out in the constitution. Among these, Hafizollah Amin pointed out, are such principles as, first, unity with the socialist countries and the USSR; support for anti-imperialist movements and proletariat and national liveration movements; loyalty to the principles of nonalinement and active participation in that movement; equality and noninterference in each other's internal affairs; and an expansion of relations with all countries on the basis of respect for national independence.

Here, too, we see policies that fully realize the interests of the toilers of Afghanistan. They express the position of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the international arena as a peace-seeking country which is taking a firm anti-imperialist stand. It is clear that, as a result of the SAWR revolution, Afghanistan has joined the group of progressive countries which offer an example to the people of other developing countries to resolve [words indistinct] based on the interests of the toilers. Truly, the formulation and ratification of the Khalqi constitution will consolidate this leading role of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

RALLIES REPORTED IN SUPPORT OF AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

LD121429 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 79 Morning Editon p 5 LD

[Correspondent K. Rashidov dispatch: "Afghanistan: Popular Support" from the "World Today" features compiled by Yu. Romanov]

[Text] A mass rally has taken place in Kabul whose participants unanimously approved the foreign policy activity of the people's government, IZVESTIYA correspondent in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan K. Rashidov reports. The speakers observed that the principles of observing legality and insuring justice and security which were put forward by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the republic's government are encountering fervent support among all sections of the Afghan population. Rallies and demonstrations in which tens of thousands of representatives of the public have participated have also been held in the provinces of Balkh, Paktia and Badakhshan. Reporting stresses that "favorable conditions have been created in the country for the implementation of genuine social justice and for the successful implementation of revolutionary transformations aimed at building an exploitation-free society."

AFGHAN CITIZENS RETURNING HOME FROM ABROAD

LD101319 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[L. Mironov dispatch: "Returning Home"]

[Text] Kabul--The local press is reporting the return home of many Afghan citizens who left the country as a result of the actions of the April revolution's enemies. The Kabul TIMES writes that the last few days alone hundreds of Afghan families have returned to their former places of residence in Parvan, Farah, Samangan and Zabul provinces. The local authorities are helping them to organize a normal life. All those who have returned are guaranteed complete safety in accordance with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Government's recently published declaration of amnesty for Afghan citizens who have found themselves abroad because of the intrigues of counterrevolution. At meetings which are taking place those who have returned are stating their intention to work for the benefit of the new Afghanistan.

KOSYGIN RECEIVES KAMPUCHEAN DEFENSE MINISTER IN KREMLIN

LD121404 Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 12, TASS--Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Aleksey Kosygin today received in the Kremlin Deputy Chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council, Defence Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the People's Republic of Kampuchea Pen Sovan, who is in Moscow on his way from the GDR.

An exchange of opinions was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding on questions of Soviet-Kampuchean cooperation and international problems of mutual interest.

Pen Sovan dwelt on the results of the second Congress of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea, held in September this year, on the activities of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea on elimination of the grave consequences of the rule of the anti-popular clique, rehabilitation of the wrecked national economy of the country, and revival of social and cultural life of the population.

Both sides noted that the victory of the revolutionary patriotic forces of Kampuchea in January 1979 ensured real conditions for the country's advance along the lines of democracy and social progress, opened up favourable prospects for improving the situation in South East Asia in the interests of peace, goodneighbourliness and cooperation.

From the Soviet side it was noted with satisfaction that the peaceful foreign policy line of the People's Republic of Kampuchea finds ever growing understanding and support in the world arena. Reaffirmed was the determination of the Soviet Union to continue giving the Kampuchean people support and assistance in building a new society, in the support against the designs of imperialism and reaction, for ensuring the legitimate rights of the People's Republic of Kampuchea at the United Nations and other international organizations.

Pen Sovan expressed profound gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the Government of the USSR and the Soviet people from the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea for the disinterested aid and effective support being rendered.

SOUTH, SOUTHEAST ASIAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION FORMED IN MOSCOW

LD121918 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Excerpts] An association of friendship with South and Southeast Asian countries has been set up at a meeting held at Friendship House here in Moscow. Our correspondent who covered the meeting has this story:

It was the first meeting of the sponsor group. The audience consisted of eminent scientists, artists, cultural workers, well-known writers and members of various public organisations in Moscow.

When the chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship with Foreign Countries, Andrey Ledovskiy, opened the meeting, he said the presidium of the union had received many proposals to set up an association that would promote friendship with countries in South and Southeast Asia.

The sponsor group elected its chairman, Valeriy Baltiyskiy. He is at the head of the Soviet Red Cross. The sponsor group also set the date for the association to hold its first meeting, the 22nd of this month. At that point the meeting was closed.

SYRIA'S AL-ASAD ARRIVES FOR MOSCOW VISIT

LD151224 Moscow TASS in English 1207 GMT 15 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 15, TASS--General Secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, President Hafiz al-Asad of the Syrian Arab Republic has arrived in Moscow today at the head of a Syrian party and government delegation at the invitation of the CPSU CC, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers.

At Vnukovo Airport Hafiz al-Asad and members of the delegation were welcomed by member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, USSR Defence Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, Secretary of the CPSU CC, Boris Ponomarev and other officials.

KYODO: BREZHNEV UNABLE TO MEET AL-ASAD

OW150225 Tokyo KYODO in English 0120 GMT 15 Oct 79 OW

[Text] Beirut Oct 14 KYODO--The Soviet Union has notified Syria in a letter that President Leonid Brezhnev is unable to meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who starts his official visit to Moscow Monday, for reason of bad health, according to a report from Damascus that reached here Sunday.

The report said the letter, sent last Thursday, also notified Al-Asad that Brezhnev could not meet him at the airport when he arrives because of deteriorating health since his recent visit to East Germany.

Al-Asad's aides still hold, however, that the Syrian President can hold top-level talks with other Soviet leaders even if Brezhnev cannot attend, according to the report.

Soviet and Syrian officials were earlier said to have discussed a postponement of Al-Asad's visit to Moscow. They were understood to have agreed, however, that a visit at this time was necessary in view of current developments in the Middle East. Al-Asad has already postponed his visit to Moscow, which had originally been scheduled for June.

IRAN REBUTS CHARGES OF CUTS IN OIL PRODUCTION

LD132348 Moscow TASS in English 2151 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

["Groundless Assertions"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, October 13, TASS--U.S. mass media are sounding the alarm: In recent days, Iran has, allegedly, curtailed production and exports of its oil. According to ASSOCIATED PRESS, in the Persian Gulf, where Iranian petroleum is pumped into tankers, there is a large number of idle tankers waiting in a line which is growing.

The OIL AND GAS JOURNAL, for its part, asserts that, in Iran, oil production declined from 4 to 1 million barrels a day and, considering that Iran daily consumes 700 thousand barrels to meet its internal requirements, exports at present amount to a mere 300 thousand barrels.

The United States, however, buys 900 thousand barrels a day in that country. In the opinion of ASSOCIATED PRESS, the drastic cut in Iranian oil exports may have a most serious impact on the world energy supplies.

As is known, the myth about a threat to U.S. oil interests is used by Washington for an open interference in the affairs of Middle Eastern states and strengthening its military presence in such a strategically sensitive area as the Persian Gulf. The groundless assertions of U.S. mass media are refuted by official Iranian representatives. According to a FRANCE PRESSE report from Tehran, Iranian Oil Minister 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar said that the production of oil and its exports in the country remain at the previous stable level amounting, respectively, to 4 and 3.3 million barrels a day. He also refuted the rumours spread in the West about Iran's alleged intention to raise oil prices.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS HELD IN IRAN

LD122012 Moscow TASS in English 1927 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, October 12, TASS--Elections to new bodies of local government--councils, began in Iran today. Taking part in them are all Iranian citizens who have reached the age of 16. The right to vote is denied to persons who held responsible posts in the state apparatus during the shah, and also to former army officers and members of the police. Elections in big towns, including the capital, have been postponed till the creation there of election districts. Elections are not being held also in Iranian Kordestan where the situation remains tense.

IRAN'S TABATABA'I CONDEMNS U.S. PERSIAN GULF POLICY

LD131635 Moscow TASS in English 1413 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, October 13, TASS--Sadeq Tabataba'i, deputy prime minister of Iran, in an interview with the Lebanese weekly AL-USBU' AL-'ARABI sharply condemned the plans of the USA and Western countries to impose their military presence in the Persian Gulf area. He stated that the United States, France and West Germany, seeking to cover up their pretensions to oil fields of Arab countries are for this purpose making use of the project of Sultan Qabus of Oman 'On Ensuring the Safety of Navigation of Ships Through the Strait of Hormuz', project prepared on Washington's direct prompting.

PDRY'S ISMA'IL PAYS TRIBUTE TO COOPERATION WITH USSR

LD120946 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 11 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Aden, 11 October, TASS--The new teaching and residential complex of the Higher School of Scientific Socialism (HSSS) attached to the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], which was built by Soviet and South Yemeni workers and specialists, has been opened at a ceremony here.

Speaking at the meeting, 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, declared that the modern new complex is a symbol of the ever-stronger friendship between the peoples of the USSR and the PDRY, and of the fruitful cooperation between the CPSU and the YSP. Isma'il gave a high assessment of successfully developing Soviet-South Yemeni ties in the political, economic and cultural spheres.

Stressing the guiding role of the party in the construction of the new society, the YSP Central Committee secretary general noted that it is the unity of supreme aims and the ideology of scientific socialism which form the basis of the interrelationships between the Soviet Union and the democratic Yemen. There is no force which could hamper Soviet-Yemeni friendship. We declare resolutely that we will never stray from the course toward strengthening all-round ties with the USSR, said Isma'il.

The ceremony of the opening of the HSS complex was attended by a delegation of the CPSU, led by M.Z. Shakirov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Bashkiriyanskiy Obkom, which has traveled to the PDRY to take part in celebrations marking the 16th anniversary of the revolution.

MEETINGS, SPEECHES CELEBRATE PDRY NATIONAL DAY

LD142305 Moscow TASS in English 0758 GMT 14 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Aden, October 14, TASS--The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen observes today its national day, the day of the revolution of 1963 that set the beginning to organized armed actions of the people of South Yemen against British colonialists.

A mass meeting devoted to the day of the revolution was held yesterday in the republic's capital, Aden. The meeting was addressed by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, Chairman of Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il. He stressed particularly that the main trend of the country's foreign policy is further development of all-round relations with countries of the socialist community. The speaker emphasized great importance of the recent visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen by member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin. 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il expressed cordial gratitude for vast assistance that the Soviet Union and other socialist countries give to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in its political, social and economic development.

Bereznikovskiy Commentary

LD131144 Moscow TASS in English 0839 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 13, TASS--TASS commentator Igor Bereznikovskiy writes:

On October 14 the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) is marking its national holiday--the day of the revolution. That day 16 years ago the Yemeni people under the leadership of the National Front arms in hand rose for a struggle against British colonialists. The heroic struggle for freedom and independence ended in victory. Foreign enslavers left the Yemeni soil for ever. On the map of the Middle East there emerged a new independent state--the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Deep socio-economic and political cransformations occured in the PDRY over the years of independence: The property of foreign companies and firms has been nationalised in the interests of the working people, the state sector of the economy has grown considerably stronger, industrial output has increased, power engineering and other branches of the economy gain in strength from year to year. Important measures have also been taken to develop national culture and improve material position of the working masses.

The laws on universal education and free medical aid to the population are being implemented. Deep changes are also coming about in the life of the PDRY's peasants who constitute about eighty per cent of the country's entire population: The agrarian reform which provided peasants with the land formerly owned by shaykhs and sultans is being carried out. A network of agricultural cooperatives and state farms is being established.

The founding of the Yemeni Socialist Party--the vanguard force in the cause of further revolutionary transformations--became an important political achievement of the country's national patriotic forces. In the field of foreign policy the Government of the PDRY comes out in support of the peoples struggling for their national independence, peace and progress. In the conditions when the situation in the Middle East has been aggravated as a result of the U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli deal, the PDRY plays an important role in the Arabs' struggle against intrigues and conspiracies of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. The PDRY firmly condemns plans for knocking together an imperialist military bloc in the area of the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf.

Between the USSR and the PDRY there develop all-round relations on the basis of common interest in achieving international detente and strengthening peace. The Soviet Union renders unselfish help and assistance to the PDRY's people in various fields of economy, science and culture. Soviet-PDRY business cooperation promotes the strengthening of the national-democratic system in the PDRY.

Gerasimov Commentary

LD131936 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 13 Oct 79 LD

[Alek Gerasimov commentary: "The PDRY Marches Along the Road of Independence"]

[Text] The people of the PDRY welcome the 16th anniversary of their independence. The road to independence was very difficult and stretched over 4 years of fierce fighting against the colonialists who tried with the elite of feudalism and the tribes to suppress the people's aspiration for freedom. In this struggle thousands of the PDRY's best sons were martyred. The patriots defended the people's right to freedom and happiness. An obelisk dedicated to the memory of the martyrs now stands where the bronze statue of Queen Victoria once stood. At the bottom of the obelisk is a permanent display of flowers.

Political independence has become a first step toward real independence. On 22 June 1969, the leftist wing of the National Front led by 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad overthrew the fanatic Yemeni nationalists, for whom independence was a flag and a republican symbol. The country entered a stage of deep social, economic and political reforms. The reforms, which were achieved by the country's leadership during the previous era [as heard], included agrarian reform for the benefit of the wide masses of workers, the nationalization of foreign property and private bourgeois possessions, the construction of new industrial establishments, schools, hospitals and institutes, and the application of economic planning. Great efforts were made to unify the patriotic forces within the framework of one political organization.

In October of last year the first congress of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP] was held in Aden, which confirmed that scientific socialism will continue to be the ideological basis for the building of new life in the PDRY.

The congress also confirmed that the success of the PDRY people in economic and cultural construction proves the comprehensiveness of Marxist-Leninist ideas and their immense creative power. The firm policy of implementing socioeconomic reforms in the interest of all workers, the anti-imperialist foreign policy, the firm support of the liberation struggle of peoples and the friendship and cooperation with socialist countries has led the PDRY to become the vanguard of the national liberation movement, enjoying great respect and a first-class international reputation. However, it is a mistake to say that all difficulties have been overcome. The PDRY people and its vanguard party must still implement large economic and cultural tasks on a road full of obstacles. It is worth mentioning that the successes of the young republic in the southern part of the Arab Peninsula might have been greater if its problems had been faced in a quiet atmosphere. The imperialists and the remnants of local reaction, as well as the reactionary quarters in the Arab world, strive to obstruct the construction of new Yemen and carry out sabotage inside the country. However, these attempts fail one after the other, indicating first of all that the internal policy of the YSP and the PDRY Government enjoy the firm support of all the people, who have chosen the road of socialist development and pursue it with firm and confident steps.

The PDRY people can rely on the support and backing of their friends in the socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union. The USSR has supported the Yemeni people at all historic turns. The USSR provided moral and material assistance to the Yemeni patriots during their armed struggle for independence. The Soviet Union was the first country to recognize the PDRY after independence and continues to provide it with substantial military and economic aid. 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the YSP Central Committee Political Bureau, said at a reception in honor of the great Soviet guest, Aleksey Kosygin, Soviet prime minister, in September this year: The Soviet Union provided the PDRY fraternal aid in the development along the road of social progress. It also supported it during trying times when imperialism and reaction conspired against the Yemeni people and the Yemeni revolution.

The Soviet people are proud of the fact that the USSR has contributed greatly to the large successes of the PDRY people. The PDRY Government, expressing gratitude for this role, has named the biggest street in Aden after Lenin. Here we point out that during Aleksey Kosygin's visit to the PDRY he was awarded the 14 October Revolution medal. Aleksey Kosygin said while receiving this award that the medal is a symbol of the rapprochement between the PDRY people and the Soviet people and a symbol of the implementation of socialist thoughts in life which unites us and whose eternal lessons bring freedom, equality and dignified life of mankind. The PDRY people welcome the revolution's anniversary with optimism and confidence. The Soviet people wish on this occasion further brilliant successes in the building of new life for the people of the PDRY.

FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN SAHARAN CONFLICT CONDEMNED

ID142108 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 14 Oct 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "A Grave Situation in Western Sahara"]

[Text] Increasingly disturbing reports are coming from Western Sahara regarding the increase in both the scope and sphere of the military operations between Morocco and the units of the POLISARIO, which are struggling for the independence of Western Sahara. The heavy losses, which are estimated at thousands of men, being sustained by both sides are indicative of the intensity of the military clashes.

Increasingly modern weapons are being used in the battles, indicating the escalation of these battles. French-made Mirage fighters were used for the first time in the battles in the town of Semara, the second largest town in Western Sahara.

There is yet another reality which attracts attention. It is the fact that foreign interference is being manifested increasingly clearly in this fratricide, as the Arabs are killing their Arab brothers. Both the foreign and Arab press have pointed several times to U.S. involvement in the dispute in Western Sahara. These reports are not without foundation. A proof of this is the statement made by U.S. officials who ask for the consolidation of military aid to Morocco and for more visits to Morocco and the Western Sahara region by senior U.S. officials. On the basis of these and other facts commentators reach the following logical conclusion: Washington has moved away from the position of neutrality, which it used to adopt at the beginning of the Western Sahara issue, and is openly working for fanning the military conflict. In addition to increasing military aid, Washington is vigorously dragging the administration of Egyptian President as-Sadat toward involvement in the conflict in Western Sahara. Cairo is making resounding statements about its preparedness to give military aid to Morocco. According to latest information, it has sent military advisers to this country. In accordance with Washington's plans, Morocco must support President as-Sadat's capitulatory policy and the Camp David deal in return for Cairo's assistance.

It is quite evident and clear what the consequences of the development of these events may be. The fanning of the military conflict in Western Sahara and the intervention of imperialist forces and those under the influence of imperialism in the conflict create a dangerous hotbed of tension in the Maghreb; this clashes with the vital interests of all the peoples in the region, and with resolutions and recommendations of the United Nations, the OAU and the Arab league, and also the cause of struggle for world detente and peace.

The Soviet Union has made it clear several times that the question of the Western Sahara should be resolved by the parties to the conflict, without any direct or indirect foreign intervention. But this solution, which stems from the UN resolutions, should be found by political methods. Traditionally, the Soviet Union has good relations with both Algeria and Morocco. The Soviet people had and continue to have feelings of great sympathy with the heroic struggle of the Algerian people for independence, at the beginning, and then for their economic and social progress. Thousands of Soviet experts are taking part in the great creative work in Algeria. Since the independence of Morocco, Soviet-Moroccan relations have been good relations of cooperation.

Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, said in his Berlin speech that the Soviet Union is firmly struggling for the consolidation of peace and for the deepening of international detente; it holds the view that this process should be general, involving all parts of the world and all continents, including Western Sahara.

EL SALVADOR CP HEAD SCORES U.S. CARIBBEAN POLICY

ID131435 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 12 Oct 79 ID

["A Policy Doomed to Failure"--TASS headline]

[Text] Havana, October 12, TASS--TASS correspondents Boris Shcherbakov and Sergey Gorbunov report:

Shafiq Jorge Handal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of El Salvador, described the increased U.S. military presence in the Caribbean as a threat to the peoples of Latin America, peace and relaxation of international tension.

The actions of the American administration, he said in an interview with the TASS correspondents, are not prompted by the security interests of the United States. They were caused by a profound crisis of the United States' policy in Latin America. The downfall of Somoza's regime in Nicaragua was a heavy blow to U.S. domination in the region. All of Washington's machinations, all its efforts to prevent the victory of the Nicaraguan people failed one after another.

The United States' positions, said the leader of the Salvadoran communists, were also undermined by progressive changes in Carbibbean countries, especially in Grenada. Washington is seriously concerned today by the development of the revolutionary process in Central America, especially in El Salvaldor whose people are fighting to overthrow the dictatorial regime of Carlos Humberto Romero.

Increasing its military presence in this area of the world, Shafiq Jorge Handal said, the United States is trying with the help of military black mail and threats to achieve what it was powerless to do by political means, namely, to frighten the peoples of Latin America into abandoning their struggle for national liberation.

He said the American administration resorts to these actions under pressure from the reactionary forces which demand a "tough policy" in the international arena. Playing into the hands of the military-industrial complex, the White House wants to secure its support in the present election campaign.

Shafiq Jorge Handal said in conclusion that the United States militaristic policy in the Caribbean arouses the indignation of the peoples of the region and all the progressive forces in the world.

BRAZIL, USSR EXTEND TRADE AGREEMENT TO 1982

ID111541 Moscow Pravda in Russian 6 Oct 79 p 4 ID

[TASS report: "Trade Ties"]

[Text] Brasilia, 5 October--The sixth session of the Soviet-Brazilian mixed trade and economic commission has ended in the Brazilian capital. An additional document has been signed to extend until 1982 the 1975 agreement on deliveries of Soviet machinery and equipment to Brazil and deliveries of Brazilian commodities to the USSR.

Speaking at the document signing ceremony, Brazilian Foreign Minister R. Saraiva Guerreiro pointed out that the session's results will contribute to the development of relations between Brazil and the USSR.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON USSR CONSTITUTION DAY

LD150735 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Under the Banner of the Constitution"]

[Text] Soviet people are greeting USSR Constitution Day with feelings of profound patriotism. This nationwide festival is a red letter day on our calendar, signifying the vital force of the socialist system and the majesty of the Soviet people's victories.

At the 7 October 1977 closing session of the USSR Supreme Soviet which adopted the new Constitution, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, said: "The years and decades will pass, but this October day will remain forever in the people's memory as striking evidence of the true triumph of the Leninist principles of people's power. And the further our society advances along the path to communism, the more fully the immense creative potential of socialist democracy--the power of the people, power in the people's interest--as reflected in the new constitution will be revealed."

The 2 years of life and labor in accordance with the new Constitution have convincingly demonstrated that, with each step forward, socialist democracy truly becomes an ever more powerful motive force in our society. These years have been filled with significant accomplishments in all spheres of the Soviet people's creative activity and with major successes in the main directions of communist building as defined for the current stage by the 25th CPSU Congress. Together with the growth of the country's material and spiritual wealth, its positions in the international arena and in the struggle for peace, democracy and social progress have been strengthened.

The immense creative potential of the Constitution of developed socialism is strikingly manifested in our full and multifaceted social and political life. All its spheres are suffused with genuine democratism, which insures that the popular masses are involved in very important social and state matters and in the formation of organs of power and state policy. The elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation, which were held in the spring in an atmosphere of nationwide enthusiasm and unanimity, were a remarkable demonstration of the triumph of socialist democratism. The further broadening and deepening of civil rights and freedoms drew a new burst of creative energy from the working people.

The fundamental law of the socialist state of the whole people created the most favorable conditions for fruitful activity by all elements of Soviet democracy, beginning with the representative organs of state power. Relying on their aktiv of many millions, soviets are purposefully and vigorously exercising their authority and pursuing the party's political line. Quite naturally, they are currently focusing attention on problems of socioeconomic development and of improving industrial and agricultural production efficiency. This is required by the well-known CPSU Central Committee decisions on further improving the economic mechanism and planning. The party attaches paramount significance to consistently improving the work style and methods of soviets, generalizing and disseminating their accumulated experience and regularly checking on the fulfillment of voters' instructions, the implementation of the working people's numerous proposals and the satisfaction of their needs and requirements.

The growing potential of socialist people's power is reflected in the intensification of the role of mass social organizations and labor collectives. The legislative enshrinement of their right to participate in the solution of political, economic and sociocultural questions has contributed to the further development of their initiative and independence. Millions of citizens are becoming more and more active in the running of society, the state and production and in the implementation of social and cultural policy.

The masses' political creativity is truly inexhaustible. Our Communist Party draws it into a single strand by coordinating the efforts of all state and social organizations. At the head of Soviet society and the nucleus of its political system, the Communist Party is the chief vehicle for the principles of socialist democracy and insures its successful progressive development. One important concern of the CPSU and the Soviet state is the implementation of the big program of improving legislation on the basis of the new Constitution. The Soviet way of life and socialist democracy are inconceivable without a well thought-out system of laws and their unswerving fulfillment.

The party proceeds on the basis that Soviet democracy can and must serve socioeconomic progress even better. It is a matter of utilizing more fully its tremendous creative force in order to solve urgent problems, uncover reserves, criticize shortcomings and struggle against everything that inhibits our progress.

At the same time, the party indefatigably arms the working people with lofty political culture, instilling in them not only a profound understanding of their constitutional rights and duties but also the ability to use them and to discharge their civic duty unerringly. It is important that every Soviet person should feel that he is the master of his country, involved in its destiny and in state problems, and should have a high sense of responsibility to society. The molding of these qualities is one of the main tasks of communist education. Its specific tasks are clearly defined in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work."

The most reliable guarantee of the rights granted by the Constitution to Soviet citizens is the might of the motherland, which is created through their will, intellect and work. Labor, the free, creative labor of the people, has been and still is the source of the well-being and prosperity of our developed socialist society. Leading collectives are greeting Constitution Day, having successfully fulfilled state targets for 1979. Socialist competition to complete the 10th 5-Year Plan as a whole ahead of schedule is expanding in the country.

The fraternal USSR peoples, united under the glorious banner of the Soviet Constitution and guided and inspired by Lenin's party, are fully determined to achieve new successes in communist building.

SHEVARDNADZE ADDRESSES GEORGIAN CP FIRST SECRETARIES

LD120913 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 5 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[GRUZINFORM report: "Conference at Georgian CP Central Committee"]

[Excerpts] A conference of Georgian CP obkom, gorkom and raykom first secretaries was held at the Georgian CP Central Committee to discuss the republic party organizations' very important tasks in the fulfillment of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and 25th Georgian CP Congress and the successful completion of the targets of the 4th year of the 5-year plan and the 5-year plan as a whole.

The conference was opened by B.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee.

E.A. Shevardnadze summed up the results of the conference.

YEREVAN GORKOM DISCUSSES PARTY RECRUITMENT ISSUES

LD120915 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 22 Sep 79 p 2 LD

[ARMENPRESS report: "Serious Attention to Party Recruitment. Yerevan Gorkom Plenum"]

[Excerpts] At all stages of its activity the party has devoted particular attention to questions of improving the qualitative composition of party ranks and improving work with young communists. These tasks take on special importance in the current period of our society's development, under the conditions of mature socialism, the ever-increasing role of the Communist Party and the intensification of its influence on all spheres of social life.

The work of the Yervean party organizations to implement the demands of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Work of Kirgiz Party Organizations on Admission to the Party and the Education of Candidate Members of the CPSU" was discussed at a Yerevan Gorkom plenum which took place 20 September.

The plenum was opened by L. Nersesyan, first secretary of the Yerevan Armenian CP Gorkom.

A report was made by N. Stepanyan, second secretary of the party gorkom.

Armenian CP Central Committee Secretary G. Voskanyan participated in the work of the plenum and spoke on the question under discussion.

The plenum approved a plan of measures to implement the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work."

The plenum also listened to the accountability report on work done delivered by A. Beybutyan, candidate member of the Yerevan Gorkom and chief of the Gorispolkom People's Education Department.

KAZAKHSTAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS ORGANS RALLY OPENS

AU121838 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 12 Oct 79 AU

[Summary] The first republic-level rally of young collaborators and mentors of the Kazakh SSR internal affairs organs opened in Alma-Ata on 12 October.

Sultanov, Kazakh Komsomol Central Committee first secretary, opened the rally. Yesbulatov, Kazakh minister of internal affairs, delivered a report on further improving the communist education of young collaborators and the consolidation of socialist law and order in the light of the decisions of the 25th CPSU and the 18th All-Union Komsomol congresses.

The rally discussed the tasks to implement the CPSU Central Committee decision on improving efforts to protect law and order and to intensify the struggle against delinquency, to improve the quality of the ideopolitical education and professional training of young collaborators. It also drew up the concrete means of cooperation between internal affairs organs and the Komsomol. It was noted that Komsomol staffs and people's squads efficiently assisted the militia and successfully guided difficult teenagers. In labor and educational collectives there are councils for preventing delinquency. The work of model law and order centers, numbering more than 2,000 in the republic, is improving. Kazakhstan's Komsomol organizations consistently work to shape the communist convictions of young people. Mentors set an example of faultless observation of socialist legality and official discipline, educate young militiamen in the spirit of utter devotion to duty and oath. Particular emphasis was put on the need to constantly improve the forms and methods of educational work. The rally discussed issues concerning the further ideological and moral tempering of Ministry of Internal Affairs workers and the organizational and political consolidation of Komsomol organizations in internal affairs organs.

Taking part in the rally were Miroshkin, Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee secretary; Platayev, Administrative Organs Department chief in the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee; Kriventsov, administration first deputy chief in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; veterans of internal affairs organs, party, soviet and Komsomol workers.

The rally will continue its proceedings.

GOVERNMENT CHANGES IN KAZAKHSTAN REPORTED

LD121221 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 29 Sep 79 p 4 LD

[KAZTAG "Chronicle" report]

[Text] The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade Ivan Stepanovich Aleykin as Kazakh SSR deputy minister of procurement after relieving Comrade B.N. Dvoretskiy of these duties in connection with his transfer to other work.

The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade Yuriy Leonovich Shneyder as deputy chairman of the State Committee for Supervision of Safe Working Practices in Industry and Mine Supervision after relieving Comrade M.K. Chekhovich from these duties in connection with his retirement owing to the condition of his health.

ESTONIAN TRANSPORT MINISTER RETIRES, REPLACEMENT NAMED

LD121107 [Editorial Report LD] Tallin SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 2 October carries on page 3 an Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium 1 October decree announcing the appointment of Garald Ottovich Kruger as Estonian minister of motor transport and highways, and an accompanying "Diary" item announcing the retirement "on pension" of previous incumbent Rikhard Yaanovich Sibul.

TURKMEN SOCIAL SECURITY MINISTER RELIEVED FROM DUTIES

LD121111 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 4 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[Text] A Turkmen Supreme Soviet Presidium 2 October 1979 decree has relieved Comrade Dzheren Mamedov of his duties as Turkmen minister of social security on his retirement.

USSR'S RUMYANTSEV CITED ON AIMS OF NEW ECONOMIC REFORM

LD111527 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 3 Oct 79 p 8 LD

[Special correspondent Jean George dispatch: "Information, Participation: The Economic Reform Plan at the Center of Debate in All Enterprises"]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 2 October--What stage have the "further improvements in the management machinery" reached 2 months after orientation decisions taken by the Communist Party and the Soviet Government?

At a press conference Aleksey Rumyantsev, chief editor of EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA, declared himself to be convinced that the new reform "will be a very important step forward in extending working people's rights in management." However, it is significant that he waited for my question before touching on this point and did not make it the center of his account.

He insists much more on the need to generalize reform in all enterprises involved in the same production, whatever their size. The 1965 reform, he told me, strengthened the scientific base of the economy while insisting on efficiency and work quality, but it "exhausted its resources toward the end of the Ninth 5-Year Plan and the beginning of the 10th" (that is, about 1974-1975). This reform, he noted, because of the lack of cadres, did not affect small enterprises, which remain decisive in Soviet industry.

This professor of economics and member of the CPSU Auditing Commission is struck by the "conservatism" of certain leaders and planners. He cites the example of the state bank, which hesitates to agree to make advances to enterprises. "We must change the economic ABC," he said, "because with the old assumptions people have reached an impasse."

The reform now being launched must respond to these imperatives. It corresponds to the needs of an economy whose very dynamism (national income has more than doubled during the last three 5-year plans) has given rise to the need for an accelerated transition from extensive forms to intensive methods, which cannot happen without problems.

The solution to all this apparently lies in increasing worker participation in management. This is widely envisaged in the reform. It remains to be seen whether it is regarded as an item in an official document or the very motive for change. There is no general answer to this crucial question. It will vary between enterprises, between local Communist Party and trade union leaderships and between collectives of working people.

THRIFT URGED IN FUEL, ENERGY EXPENDITURE

LD120701 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Save Fuel and Energy"]

[Text] The fuel and energy complex plays an important role in the further development of our economy. Speaking at the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, stressed that the targets for coal and oil extraction are not being fully met. In practice wastage and losses of these important types of raw material and fuel are not declining. This is creating difficulties in a number of sectors of the national economy.

The question of fuel saving is now acquiring increasing significance insofar as--as the 25th CPSU Congress noted--the country's demand for energy and raw material is growing constantly and their production is becoming increasingly costly. It is not fortuitous that a fuel-saving program was listed first among the comprehensive programs being elaborated for the 11th 5-Year Plan to resolve the country's most important scientific, technical, economic and social tasks in the recently adopted CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Improving Planning and Strengthening the Impact of the Economic Mechanism on the Heightening of Production Efficiency and Work Quality."

An extensive search has now been launched in the country for reserves facilitating a reduction in the expenditure of fuel and energy resources, and moreover it is based mainly on the creation and introduction of progressive techniques and technology and the modernization of equipment. The main directions of work in this sphere are. the creation of high unit capacity power assemblies; the production of electric power in the heating cycle; the introduction of power-technology methods for the production of chemical products; greater use of diesel-powered transport and so forth. It is noted that thanks to all these measures 160 million tons of ideal fuel will be saved in 1980 as compared to 1975.

Soviet **scientists**, engineers and leading workers perceive the task of reducing losses of gas, coal, electrical and fuel energy as their own vital concern. This is attested by the recently completed competition for the best proposal for saving electrical and thermal energy conducted by the All-Union Council of Scientific and Technical Societies. The figures speak of the scale of the competition: About 12,000 people participated in it and over 5,000 proposals were submitted, the introduction of which will allow almost 3 billion kilowatt-hours of electric power and about 10 trillion kilocalories of heat energy to be saved.

Nevertheless the country still has extensive opportunities for reducing fuel and energy expenditure. In particular a great deal of heat is lost because of the imperfection of equipment in small boilerrooms. Fuel losses are still great in transportation and storage operations. The fuller utilization of secondary energy resources promises considerable advantages.

Many letters now being received by IZVESTIYA are filled with concern for the conservation and augmentation of our energy reserves and for their careful utilization. Their authors broach such important questions as the fuller recovery and the comprehensive processing of combustible mineral resources; the utilization of our planet's subsurface heat, solar and wind energy; the more rational distribution of fuel and energy resources to consumers; improvement of the quality of fuel- and energy-powered equipment, and so forth.

However, the success of the struggle for economy depends not only on scientists, specialists and production leaders. It also depends on such "trifles" as the good working order of hot-water faucets in your apartment and the prompt extinguishing of lights on landings and staircases. On the scale of our country such "trifles" acquire tremendous significance.

It is impossible not to mention here too the very close link between questions of fuel saving and environmental protection. Specialists have calculated that about 60 percent of the harmful influences on nature are attributable to the fuel and energy complex. The saving of each ton of ideal fuel leads to a reduction in the discharge of harmful substances into the atmosphere of from 30 to 50 kilograms.

Our country has sufficient reserves of fuel and energy resources, and the largest hydro and nuclear power stations in the world generate electricity for us. But we must treat this wealth of ours thriftily.

We must always remember that, as Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said in his speech at the 25th CPSU Congress, "It is our high party duty to accurately count and efficiently utilize each ruble, each hour of labor and each ton of output, for we are saving for the sake of that which is most dear to us--for the sake of the motherland's wealth and might, and the well-being and prosperity of our people."

USSR GOSPLAN OFFICIAL: USSR 'IMMUNE' TO ENERGY CRISIS

LD142150 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Oct 79 LD

[Text] An executive of the Soviet National Planning Committee has said the country is immune to an energy crisis. The chief in the Department of Fuel and Oil Products (Eduard Vostov) was speaking in an interview in connection with a story made up by the Washington POST and some other Western newspapers about an oil hunger in the Soviet Union. The problem is, he said, that it is new oilfields, the ones that are situated in sparsely populated regions with austere climates that account for the bulk of output. But the problems are being handled and oil extraction growth rates are high; 353 million tons were brought up in 1970; more than 571 million last year. The Soviet Union not only meets domestic requirements but increasingly exports oil.

PROGRESS IN 9-MONTH PRODUCTION PLAN NOTED

LD120936 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] According to preliminary data, the 9-month production plan has been successfully completed by workers in the gas industry, instrument building, chemical and petroleum machine-building and the radio-electronic industry. However, it should be noted that there are lags in the work of metal and chemical workers and workers of the timber and wood-working industries.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ON DEEP OIL DRILLING

LD041025 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 30 September publishes on page 2 a 1,000-word article by V. Svintsov, general director of the "Grozneft" production association, under the rubric "A Problem Requiring a Solution" and the headline "Oil from Great Depths." The article describes experience of obtaining oil from very deep wells in the Groznenskiy oil-producing region, where oil is now extracted from depths of 4,500-5,800 meters and prospecting is taking place down to 8,000 meters. Svintsov examines methods and prospects for exploiting these deposits.

POWER MACHINE-BUILDING MINISTER ON INDUSTRY'S CONTRIBUTIONS

LD051411 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 30 September carries on page 2 an 1,800-word article entitled "High-capacity Equipment" by V. Krotov, USSR Minister of Power Machine Building, using 'Machine Builders' Day' as an opportunity to outline the power machine-building industry's present contribution to developing the country's "fuel and energy complex" and the tasks facing it in the 11th 5-Year Plan.

PRAVDA: COMPUTERS AS AID TO RAILROAD EFFICIENCY

LD100807 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 October publishes on page 2 a 1,500-word article by engineer-economist L. Khaynovskiy from Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk headed "Impasses and Loads" under the rubric "Transport is the Motive Force of the Economy." The article discusses reserves for improving the work of railroads and increasing efficiency, particularly by increasing the use of computers in freight planning.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 12-13 OCTOBER

LD140025 [Editorial Report LD] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 12 and 13 October. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

12 October

In Belorussia the corn harvest has been good and about 7 million tons of silage made from it, which is more than planned. In Moladvia the grape harvest is being completed, with more than 1 million tons of grapes having been sold to the state. (1400 GMT)

13 October

In Altayskiy Kray more than 3 million tons of grain has been sold to the state. In Omskaya Oblast autumn plowing is being completed on the first million hectares, more than half the planned acreage. (0001 GMT)

Orenburgskaya Oblast has fulfilled its plan for grain sales, with 4 million tons delivered, 2,000 tons more than the total volume of procurements. In Azerbaijan, at least 700,000 tons of cotton have been pledged, and so far 695,000 tons have been picked. Grape harvesting continues, with the target of 900,000 tons. Despite heavy rain, 860,000 tons have already been picked. (0200 GMT)

In Belorussia over 1.5 million tons of choice potatoes have been sold to the state. (2050 GMT)

GORBACHEV ATTENDS MEETING TO MARK AGRICULTURAL WORKERS DAY

LD130200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] A solemn meeting devoted to the all-union agricultural workers day was held in Moscow today. Their professional holiday is being marked on Sunday.

In the presidium were: Gorbachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, harvest heroes, production leaders, veterans of the kolkhoz movement, and scientists.

A report was delivered by Valentin Karpovich Mesyats, USSR minister of agriculture. He noted that the production potential which has been created in the countryside is the basis thanks to which agriculture has firmly embarked on the road toward intensification and is gaining increasing steadiness and stability. This is borne out also by the results of the current year, which were extremely unfavorable, and unusually harsh as regards weather conditions. Thanks to the measures for the intensive development of production forces in the countryside, adopted by the party and government, it has been possible to minimize to a considerable degree the pernicious consequences of spring and summer drought and to ensure on the whole a sufficiently weighty volume of agricultural production.

The participants in the meeting adopted with great enthusiasm a letter to the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and to Comrade Brezhnev.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER SAYS HARVEST NEARLY COMPLETED

LD142200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 14 Oct 79 LD

[Summary] Taking part in our program is Valentin Karpovich Mesyats, USSR minister of agriculture:

The harvesting of grain crops has been completed on the whole and the harvesting of sugar beets, sunflowers, potatoes and vegetables is drawing to a close. Farms are fulfilling their plans for the procurement of fodder and preparing for the wintering of cattle.

The present year was unusually difficult regarding weather. Due to the measures that were adopted, however, it was possible to avert, to a considerable extent, the ruinous consequences of the drought. If we speak about the preliminary results of the present year, then the great success achieved by Kazakh grain growers should be pointed out. They had an excellent harvest. Quite a good harvest was collected in the Urals, Siberia and the Far East.

But the struggle for grain was waged under very difficult conditions in the Volga Region, the Central-Chernozem Region, the North Caucasus, certain other oblasts in the Russian Federation and most oblasts of the Ukraine and Belorussia. But they also did their utmost to sell the maximum amount to the state.

Most of the praise should go to our cotton farmers who grew a good harvest of cotton. Cotton picking is proceeding at a good tempo. The pledges adopted in Azerbaijan were overfulfilled.

Good work is also being done by vegetable growers. The output of grapes was increased and tea growers coped with their tasks. Such then is the overall state of affairs in the country regarding agricultural production.

GRAIN HARVEST NEARS END; VEGETABLES STILL TO BE HARVESTED

LD121559 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[O. Pavlov agricultural review: "Attention to Potatoes and Vegetables"]

[Text] As the USSR Central Statistical Administration reported, by Monday 8 October grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) in the country had been cut on 113.5 million hectares. This is 91 percent of the area allocated to them. Some 98 percent of what has been cut has been threshed. Corn has been gathered from 17.3 million hectares--93 percent; sunflowers from 2.5 million hectares--55 percent; and sugar beets have been lifted from 2.5 million hectares--67 percent.

Potatoes have been harvested from 3 million hectares--93 percent; and vegetables have been gathered from 862,000 hectares--68 percent.

Winter crops have been sown on 38.6 million hectares--93 percent of the plan. Fall plowing has been carried out on 74.3 million hectares--63 percent.

The harvest is nearing completion in the east of the country. Orenburgskaya Oblast farmers have completely finished threshing grain crops. Altayskiy Kray farms have also practically finished harvesting. According to a TASS report, Tselinogradskaya Oblast kolkhozes and sovkhozes finished threshing grain crops from 2.8 million hectares 9 October. In the next few days the grain harvest will also be over in other parts of the country. But there is still a lot of work in the fall field. It is necessary to harvest late crops more quickly--primarily potatoes, vegetables and sunflowers.

The potato harvest is proceeding at a good pace. This is what IZVESTIYA correspondents report:

Potatoes have practically all been lifted in Belorussia. Approximately half the area has been replowed--which has yielded additional quintals. Procurements are also in full swing.

Belorussia has to dispatch 572,000 tons of potatoes to the union fund. Some 468,000 tons have been dispatched--82 percent of the target. Produce has been sent in full to Moscow, Leningrad and northern oblasts. It is being dispatched to Georgia, Moldavia, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, Kirgizia and other republics.

Ukrainian potato fields occupy 600,000 hectares. Tubers have been lifted from 564,600 hectares, which is over 50,000 hectares more than last year. The republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have fulfilled the potato harvesting plan by 94.1 percent. Sumskaya and Kharkovskaya oblasts are lagging behind somewhat.

The harvest is good in Lithuania. Varenskiy, Kedaynskiy, Radvilishkskiy and certain other rayons are gathering 200 and more quintals per hectare. Farms have provided themselves fully with seeds and fulfilled their contractual obligations to supply industrial centers with potatoes.

Nevertheless, there are also tangible shortcomings in the organization of potato harvesting and procurement. In a number of places the harvest is less than last year, which obliges us to struggle for every quintal of produce, yet harvest losses are considerable in places. This is chiefly because farm leaders and specialists do not organize the replowing of fields.

There are still quite a lot of late-ripening vegetables in the fields. In the Ukraine, for example, one hectare in every four has still not been harvested. Lvovskaya, Ivano-Frankovskaya and Zhitomirskaya oblasts are lagging behind particularly. In Belorussia only 37 percent of the plan target for vegetables has so far been procured.

Alarmingly, some shortcomings are becoming traditional. Transport is utilized badly. Many vehicles seem to have been allocated but their productivity is low and, moreover, they are frequently used for the wrong purpose. Cars are unloaded slowly at depots. Locally there are complaints--just complaints--about shortages of packaging. In addition to large suppliers being undersupplied with packaging, trading organizations also fail to return reusable packaging and use it to store vegetables. In a number of places, including Moskovskaya Oblast, plans for long-term storage of potatoes and vegetables have been set lower than last year's actual level. But was there a surplus of supplies to the public then?

In a year of difficult weather conditions soviet and economic organs are called on to establish daily checks on questions of harvesting and procuring potatoes and vegetables and supplying them to the public.

The pace of harvesting sunflowers needs to be increased. Moldavian farmers can be cited as an example here. They have grown a good crop and harvested it skillfully. The yield from each of 170,000 hectares exceeded 20 quintals.

Threshing is taking place at a good pace in the rice paddies. The "white harvest" is continuing in the cotton fields. In short, there is still quite a lot of work in the October fields, and the good weather of the last few days makes it possible to perform it efficiently and at a smooth rhythm. On the eve of Agricultural Workers Day, which will be celebrated this Sunday, rural workers are making an effort to finish harvesting late crops as quickly as possible, to fulfill their plans and pledges for sales of agricultural produce to the state and to lay a sound foundation for the next harvest.

OSYCHKIN REVIEWS FINAL STAGES OF HARVESTING WORK

ID121357 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Oct 79 p 1 ID

[N. Osychkin agricultural review: "Farmers' Shock Vigil in the Final Stage"]

[Excerpts] The first days of October brought cold, rainy weather. The fall leaves the farmer less and less time with good weather. But the volume of work remains great. For this reason leading collectives are now taking account of every hour and are striving to harvest more quickly and fully preserve the crops produced, give the country more grain and other agricultural produce and fulfill the targets of the 4th year of the 5-year plan.

According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, as of 1 October kolkhozes, sovkhozes and interfarm enterprises had reaped 112.5 million hectares--90 percent of the sown area--of grain and pulse crops (except corn). Some 108.3 million hectares--96 percent of the area reaped--had been threshed.

The harvesting of grain crops is now being conducted mostly in the eastern regions of the country and in the Non-Chernozem Zone. Farms in Orenburgskaya Oblast, where a fairly good crop was produced this year, completed this work within the best deadlines. Thanks to the introduction of the labor organization method practiced by farmers in Ipatovskiy Rayon, the average output per combine was higher than in previous years.

In the RSFSR as a whole 67.3 million hectares of grain crops--89 percent of the sown area--have been reaped and 65.2 million hectares--97 percent of the area reaped--have been threshed. There is now no task more important that the speediest completion of the harvesting in all the fields, the complete preservation of the crop and the fulfillment of plans and targets for the sale of grain to the state. It is essential to improve motor transportation's work, and organize efficient work on the threshing floors.

Kazakhstan has entered the final stage of harvesting work. In that republic 24.2 million hectares of grain and pulse crops--98 percent of the area sown--have been reaped and 22.2 million hectares have been threshed. The collectives of harvesting and transportation complexs are striving to conclude as quickly as possible the threshing and transportation of grain from the threshing floors. Many farms in Kustanayskaya, Tselinogradskaya and Kokchetavskaya oblasts have fulfilled the pledges for the sale of grain to the state and are continuing to dispatch additional amounts to the elevators.

The harvesting of hulled crops is allocated an important place in the range of fall field work operations. Some 409,000 hectares of rice--68 percent of the sown area--have been harvested. Kuban machine operators are hurrying to finish this work before the rains. Reaping has already been carried out there on 154,000 hectares--87 percent of the sown area. Some 80 percent of that area has been threshed. More than 52 quintals of rice per hectare have been produced by the Michurin Kolkhoz, which is well known in the area. The farm collective has decided to sell to the state 25,000 tons of rice, most of which has already been dispatched. Rostovskaya Oblast has harvested 76 percent of the area sown with rice, the Dagestanskaya ASSR has harvested 48 percent and Primorskiy Kray 52 percent. The largest rice-growing bases--the farms in the Karakalpakskaya ASSR and the Chardara tract in Chimkentskaya Oblast--have begun the harvesting. So as to prevent losses and to increase the total yield of grain crops many kolkhozes and sovkhozes are subjecting swaths to a second threshing. Unfortunately, this is not being done everywhere. Although bad weather is on the way, a number of farms in the Central, Volga-Vyatka and Central Chernozem regions have not yet harvested millet and buckwheat.

The harvesting of ripe ears of corn is continuing in the fields. So far 1.2 million hectares--35 percent of the sown area--have been harvested. In Uzbekistan this work is drawing to a close. Farms in a number of oblasts in the Ukraine and in the North Caucasus still have to harvest substantial areas of this crop.

Some 1.9 million hectares of sunflowers--42 percent of the sown area--have been harvested. This work is virtually finished in Georgia, Moldavia and the Kuban. The threshing of oilseed crops is only just beginning in oblasts in the Volga and Central Chernozem regions. Farms in the Ukraine, Moldavia, the North Caucasus and southern Kazakhstan are harvesting soybeans.

It is a busy time on the cotton plantations. Machine harvesting of cotton is being conducted in Uzbekistan, Turkmenia, southern Kazakhstan and in other republics. Dzhuma Soliyev, a combine operator in the Tadzhik Sovkhoz named for the 50th Anniversary of the USSR, has already unloaded 250 tons of cotton from his machine and has pledged to increase the amount to 500 tons. Azerbaijan working people have kept their word. Farms in the republic have dispatched 600,000 tons of cotton to the procurement centers and have decided to gather a further 150,000 tons.

Beet-growers and workers at sugar refineries still have much work to do. So far root crops have been lifted on 1.9 million hectares--51 percent of the sown area. In the RSFSR 64 percent of the area has been harvested and in the Ukraine 45 percent. It is essential to expedite the dispatch of root crops from the fields and to prevent losses during harvesting. However, 500,000-600,000 tons of root crops have piled up in each of the oblasts in the Central Chernozem Region and are being transported too slowly to refineries and procurement centers. It is essential to press on in every way with the harvesting and storage of beet to be used for propagation. In Orlovskaya and Penzenskaya oblasts this work has been completed on half the area.

Some 2.6 million hectares of potatoes--82 percent of the plantes area--have been lifted and 740,000 hectares of vegetables--54 percent of the sown area--have been harvested. It is particularly important to correctly store the tubers and to prevent spoilage. The delivery of vegetables to cities and industrial centers must be expedited. So far 60 percent of the procurement plan has been fulfilled.

The sowing of winter crops is continuing on farms in southern regions. In all they now occupy 37 million hectares--89 percent of the plan. The condition of the shoots is mostly good. The fall plowing has been carried out on 62 million hectares--53 percent of the planned area. Many farms have organized round-the-clock working of tractors and are creating the requisite conditions for highly productive work by machine operators so as to step up the pace of plowing work.

Rural workers are maintaining a shock vigil in the fall fields and are preparing to give a fitting welcome to their holiday--Agricultural Workers' Day.

POOR WEATHER JEOPARDIZES SUCCESS OF COTTON HARVEST

LD151052 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2115 GMT 14 Oct 79 LD

[Summary] "On the country's cotton-fields: At the microphone is Nikolay Ivanovich (Krutskikh), deputy chief of the cotton-production technology directorate of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture:

"For the 2d year running, the country's cotton-farmers are having to surmount the caprices of nature. The year 1979 has been a particularly serious test for cotton producers in Uzbekistan, Tadzhikistan, Turkmenia, Azerbaijan, Kirgiziya and Kazakhstan. Because of extremely poor weather during the spring, accompanied by natural calamities and low temperatures, farms were forced repeatedly to resow the cotton on large areas. In all, some 40 percent of the area was resown. All this delayed the growth of the plants and ripening of the crop."

Because of cool temperatures the bolls opened on average 12 to 15 days later than usual and up to 25-30 days late on resown areas. "Thanks to the selfless work and high degree of skill of the cotton-farmers, and also intensive tending of the crop, the difficulties were overcome and a good cotton harvest was grown, insuring the fulfilment of the established plans. However, it did not prove possible fully to overcome the delay in the growth of the cotton."

Uzbekistan intends to deliver 5.7 million tons of raw cotton to the state. Azerbaijan has kept its word and has delivered about 900,000 tons of cotton, or 127 percent of plan, with all 24 cotton-growing rayons fulfilling the cotton procurement plan ahead of schedule. They are continuing picking and procurement. Turkmenia is conducting procurement of cotton more successfully than last year and has exceeded the planned procurement level of especially valuable fine-fiber cotton. Cotton-picking is proceeding in an organized manner and at a fast rate in Karakalpakskaya ASSR, and Bukharskaya, Ferganskaya, Kashkadaryinskaya, and Surkhandaryinskaya oblasts in Uzbekistan.

"At the present time, the battle for the cotton crop has entered the decisive phase. The rate of cotton-procurement grows from day to day. However, the rate is still insufficiently high, as the unfavorable weather has greatly reduced and compressed the cotton harvest period." An important factor must be the productive utilization of machines. Some 50,000 cotton-picking machines, in harvest-transport detachments, will go out into the fields in the next few days. The spread of the Ipatovskiy method in the cotton republics will enable 62 percent of the whole crop to be picked by machines. On frontranking farms, the figure will be 90 to 95 percent.

"Kolhoz and sovkhoz workers are striving to supply industry with top-class raw cotton. At the same time, signals do come in about raw cotton arriving at the cotton-procurement points with a high moisture and weed content [zasorennost]. As nighttime frosts occur, rain and occasional sleet expected in the middle 10 days of October could reduce the rate of work."

SELSKAYA ZHIZN REPORTS ON WEATHER, CROP DEVELOPMENT

LD121517 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Oct 79 p 2 LD

[Agrometeorologist Ye. Zverintseva agricultural weather report from the USSR Hydrometeorological Center: "The Weather and Crops"]

[Text] In the European territory of the USSR warm weather persisted in September, with a fall in temperature on 29 and 30 September. At the very end of the 10-day period a fall in air temperature (to minus 2 degrees) and ground frosts (between minus 1 and minus 4 degrees) were noted. The greatest number of rainy days (between 5 and 7) was over most of Latvia, Lithuania, Kalingradksaya Oblast and places in the Northwest, Central and Urals regions. In places in Moldavia there was a similar amount of precipitation in 2 or 3 days.

There was very little or no precipitation in the Ukraine, the North Caucasus, the Lower Volga Region and the southeast part of the Central Chernozem Region. The harvesting of late crops was in full swing there. In the northern half of the USSR's European territory the warm and rainy weather promoted the growth and development of winter grain crops. Conditions improved for them in Moldavia, where there was rainfall. The good supply of moisture for the crops persisted in western oblasts of the Ukraine.

Warm weather continued to prevail in arable regions of western Siberia and most oblasts in Kazakhstan. The average daily air temperature was 1-3 degrees above normal. There was no rainfall at all in Mangyshlakskaya, Kzyl-Ordinskaya, Chimkentskaya and Dzhambulska oblasts or in south Guryevskaya and Aktyubinskaya oblasts. In the remainder of Kazakhstanya and in Western Siberia rainfall was variable, fluctuating between 5 mm and 5 mm in total. Conditions were favorable for grain harvesting in most oblasts in northern Kazakhstan and in Siberia. In southern Kazakhstan the warm, dry weather promoted the opening and ripening of cotton bolls. In Western Siberia winter rye sown before 10 September began to tiller and was in good condition.

In arable regions of Eastern Siberia it was warmer, particularly in Krasnoyarskiy Kray, where the average air temperature was 2-3 degrees above normal. Frosts were noted everywhere. There was almost no rainfall.

It was cooler in the Far East, apart from Amurskaya Oblast, the average air temperature over the 10-day period being 1-2 degrees below normal. There was rainfall everywhere but most fell in the eastern part of Amurskaya Oblast, central regions of Khabarovskiy Kray and the coastal area of Primorskiy Kray.

In Central Asian republics the warm, dry weather persisted, a small amount of rainfall occuring only in Kirgizia. The maximum air temperature was between 27 and 32 degrees. Condition were favorable for the opening and ripening of cotton bolls.